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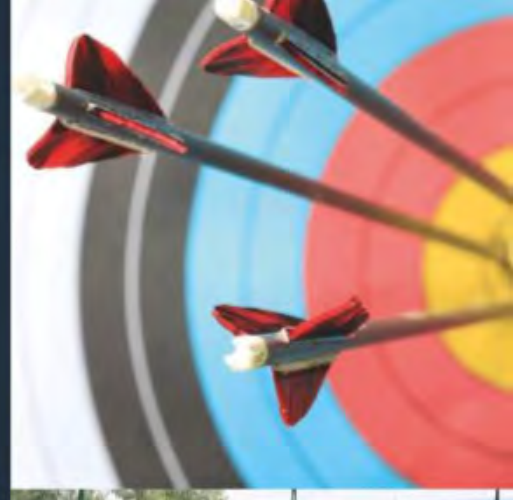

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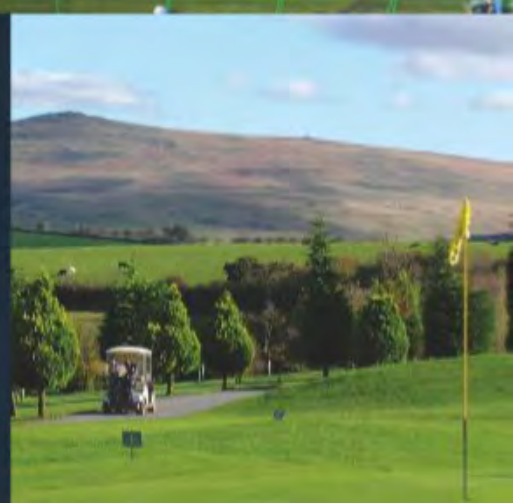

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FROM THE EDITOR

On the face of it, we are in for one of the most predictable seasons ever. Last year, for the first time in all five major European leagues, the champions retained their titles – and few would bet against Manchester City, Bayern Munich, Paris Saint-Germain, Juventus and Barcelona celebrating again in nine months' time.

Yet for all the money that has distorted European club football in recent years, the game's greatest attraction remains its unpredictability and capacity for surprise.

Those surprises may well happen further down the football food chain over the coming months, but the game will be richer and more entertaining for them.

We always try to reach the parts of the footballing world that Google can't reach. This month, we visit San Marino, the lowest-ranked country in Europe (page 22), while Mark Gleeson's report from the Africa Cup of Nations (page 52) concludes our coverage of a hectic international summer.

Next month, we will preview the Champions League and Europa League, and review all the major deals of the transfer window.

See you then.

Gavin Hamilton, Editor

> Few would bet against Man City, Bayern, PSG, Juventus and Barcelona celebrating again in nine months' time

10 SIGNIFICANT EVENTS THIS MONTH

1 Algeria win Africa Cup of Nations p52
2 Ronaldo rape charges dropped p10
3 Women's World Cup to expand to 32 teams p10
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10 Spain win Euro under-19 title p62

USA

No charges for Ronaldo in rape case

Prosecutors in Las Vegas say that former World Player of the Year Cristiano Ronaldo will not face criminal charges over allegations he raped a woman at a Las Vegas hotel in 2009.

The allegations, which were first made in 2009, cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt and no charges will be filed.

Clark County district attorney Steve Wolfson said: "Based upon a review of the information presented at this time, the allegations of sexual assault against Cristiano Ronaldo cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt. Therefore, no charges will be forthcoming."

Representatives for the Juventus star have denied the allegations since German publication *Der Spiegel* first reported them in 2017.

Ronaldo's accuser, Kathryn Mayorga, has filed a separate civil lawsuit against the player in a US federal court. She claims Ronaldo initially used "fixers" to stop her pursuing criminal charges, including paying her $375,000 to keep quiet.

Ronaldo's lawyer Peter Christiansen said that the Portuguese and Mayorga had sex but it was consensual and claimed that she came forward with her story in the wake of the #MeToo movement.

FIFA

Women's World Cup to expand to 32 teams

Women's Final...USA (in white) and Holland

"Juventus made us go quiet, we were not allowed to say a single word about Ronaldo and his rape accusations out loud. It felt a bit like I was in prison"

Former Juventus Women defender Petronella Ekroth on the club's attitude to allegations about their star male player

No charge...Cristiano Ronaldo

The Women's World Cup will increase from 24 to 32 teams for the next finals in 2023.

FIFA says it made the decision following the "astounding success" of this summer's World Cup in France. According to president Gianni Infantino, the aim is to "keep the momentum going and take concrete steps to foster the growth of women's football".

Infantino added: "The expansion reaches far beyond the eight additional participating teams: it means that, from now on, dozens more member associations will organise their women's football programme knowing they have a realistic chance of qualifying.

"The Women's World Cup is the most powerful trigger for the professionalisation of the women's game, but it comes just once every four years and is only the top of a much greater pyramid.

"In the meantime, we all have a duty to do the groundwork and strengthen women's football development infrastructure across all confederations."

HEROES & VILLAINS

Fair...Athletic Bilbao (in red) and Real Sociedad

ATHLETIC BILBAO, REAL SOCIEDAD, EIBAR, OSASUNA & ALAVES

La Liga's Basque region clubs agreed to fix away fan ticket prices at €25.

DAVID MANSELL

The father of Partick Thistle's Lewis Mansell gave "life-saving" help to a fan during his son's Scottish League Cup tie at Hamilton Academical. He provided CPR before emergency services arrived after a supporter fell in the stands.

SADIO MANE

The Liverpool striker has built a school in his local village in Senegal at a cost of €270,000. He previously paid for the cost of building a hospital and financed a stadium for the people.

Charitable...Sadio Mane

FORT WILLIAM

The team from the Scottish Highlands had not won a match for 840 days, but within hours of the BBC airing a film on their plight they won a game, beating Nairn County 5-2 in the North of Scotland Cup.

JORIS GNAGNON

The Sevilla defender apologised for an "odious" foul on Liverpool teenager Yasser Larouci in a pre-season friendly.

MOOKETSI KGOTLELE

The former Botswana FA general-secretary has been banned for life and fined $51,000 by FIFA for "accepting bribes".

MUSA BILITY

The former Liberia FA president and CAF ExCo member was handed a 10-year ban by FIFA and fined him $500,000.

NABIL DIRAR

The Fenerbahce wing-back tried to walk off the pitch during a friendly against Bayern Munich when his own fans jeered him but was forced to stay on by coach Ersun Yanal.

Jeered...Nabil Dirar tried to walk off the pitch

ON SALE NOW

From the makers of

WorldSoccer

"These are not tears of fear. I respect the illness, I will face it, with chest puffed out, looking it in the eyes, the way I always have done"

Sinisa Mihajlovic on being diagnosed with leukaemia

Ismael BENNACER

(Algeria)

Will Arsenal regret letting the 21-year-old slip away? The midfielder was the official player of the tournament as Algeria won the Africa Cup of Nations in Egypt and returned to Europe to complete a high-profile move to Milan from Empoli.

Born in Arles in southern France to an Algerian mother and Moroccan father, he represented France at youth level before joining the growing band of players who have switched allegiances to Algeria.

Scouted and signed by Arsenal at 18, he made one appearance for the north London club, as a sub in a League Cup win over Sheffield Wednesday in 2015, before being sent on loan to Tours, then in France's Ligue 2. He was then allowed to leave to join Empoli in 2017.

Arsenal retained the right to re-sign him, via a clause in his Empoli contract, but declined to match Milan's offer of £14.4million. However, they did benefit from a 30 per cent sell-on clause.

GUIDO RODRIGUEZ
(Club America)
The Argentinian midfielder won the Balon de Oro prize as the best player in the Mexican league.

SARPREET SINGH
(Bayern Munich)
Making waves following his move to Germany, arguably the biggest ever transfer for a New Zealander.

PATSON DAKA
(Salzburg)
Zambian striker who Salzburg's former coach Marco Rose calls "Golden Boy".

TEJI SAVANIER
(Montpellier)
Late-developing Ligue 1 midfield general who recently moved from Nimes to his hometown side.

BRYAN HEYNEN
(Genk)
Promising Belgium under-21 central midfielder who is being tipped for big things this season.

FABIO VIEIRA
(Porto)
Attacking midfield star of the Portugal side that came second at the Euro U19s

Keir RADNEDGE

THE INSIDER

Ahmad's CAF is biggest basket case in football

With apologies to Lewis Carroll, the never-ending stream of bizarre events within African football might well be termed "Ahmad Through the Looking Glass". But who most resembles the Mad Hatter, the Red Queen, the Cheshire Cat and their fantastically gruesome colleagues is anyone's guess. Right now, CAF is a basket case.

This is the reason FIFA president Gianni Infantino decided to send in secretary-general Fatma Samoura to effectively take control.

Africa's confederation – and the game over which it sort of rules – has long been an administrative minefield. Never does an international tournament go by without at least one squad threatening a strike over non-payment of money or the accommodation chasm between foreign and home-based stars.

The Africa Cup of Nations is rarely sure of its host until weeks before the finals, even after a nation has been selected and awarded the contract.

All of this could be managed while CAF was expanding from its original four members in 1956 to 56 now. But the steady inflow of new independent nations, with their freshly enfranchised politicians and structures, owed more to excitement and less to expertise.

CAF presidents such as Ethiopia's Yidnekatchew Tessema (1972-1987) and Issa Hayatou (1988-2017) managed to keep a lid on it all by virtue of personal pragmatism, favours and the power bestowed by top-table membership of FIFA.

But Hayatou sowed a wind of change in confusing longevity with loyalty and duly reaped the whirlwind as Madagascar's Ahmad dared what others feared to do and put his head above the political parapet.

Problems...(left to right) Samoura, Infantino and Ahmad

Dispute...Wydad walk off during the Champions League Final

Ahmad's timing was perfect because Infantino, in FIFA office only a year, was intent on clearing out the old guard, and that included Hayatou. Already Ahmad was in Infantino's good books for having effected an introduction to Samoura. The Senegalese United Nations official ticked all Infantino's boxes in the gesture politics of reform as a black, Muslim woman. She was duly appointed FIFA SG in the summer of 2016.

Such evidence that Ahmad had friends in high places encouraged support from Nigeria FA president Amaju Pinnick, plus other central and west African federations as well as the southern COSAFA grouping.

In March 2017, despite speculation about a FIFA ethics inquiry into his links with banned ex-Asia supremo Mohamed Bin Hammam, Ahmad, swept Hayatou from power by 34 votes to 20 at CAF Congress in Addis Ababa.

Ahmad set to work at CAF with apparently little thought or care for his rivals and enemies in the process. He had campaigned on a platform of administrative reform, financial transparency and competitions reorganisation but his structural achievements have been minimal: CAF still does not have its own ethics committee and the disciplinary committee has no credibility.

At least on the competitions front the AFCON has been shifted from January/February to June/July and the Champions League (like South America's Libertadores Cup) will switch to a one-off Final from the traditional two-leg affair.

As for CAF's other power-brokers:

- Constant Omari was detained briefly in DR Congo on embezzlement charges (which he denied)
- Ghana FA president Kwesi Nyantakyi was banned over bribery allegations (also denied)
- Sierra Leone's Isha Johansen had to spend two years beating off fraud allegations back home (successfully)
- CAF general secretary Amr Fahmy was sacked after reporting to FIFA's ethics panel allegations against Ahmad concerning sexual harassment of staff, misuse of funds plus sportswear contract anomalies
- And Liberia's Musa Bility quit the CAF emergency committee in protest at a "president who is leading this noble organisation in the wrong direction"

Bility has since been banned from

football for 10 years by the FIFA ethics committee for misuse of development funds. His expulsion was announced three days after he registered a complaint with the Court of Arbitration for Sport to try to halt what he described as FIFA's "hostile takeover" of CAF.

Amid all of this, there was the Champions League Final chaos which culminated in the disciplinary committee refusing to punish Morocco's Wydad for walking off midway through the second leg against Esperance of Tunisia. This now also awaits CAS judgment.

Coincidentally, at Congress on the eve of the AFCON Final in Cairo, Ahmad saw now-out-of-favour Pinnick replaced as a CAF vice-president by South Africa's Danny Jordaan as well as the promotion to second vice-president of Morocco's Fouzi Lekjaa.

This is the same Lekjaa who allegedly head-butted referee Bamlak Tessema Weyesa after RS Berkane – Lekjaa's hometown club – lost to Zamalek in the CAF Confederation Cup Final. Lekjaa remains unpunished presumably because no one has the nerve to move against any of the president's men.

Unwittingly, FIFA itself threw fuel on the African fire with the 2015-16 reforms which converted a 24-strong executive committee into a 37-strong council.

Suddenly Africa's representation at the top table jumped from four to seven – hence multiplying the political and no less important financial value of being a major player within the CAF ExCo and on the world stage.

This, in turn, has raised the value of being a national FA president. And, in Africa, power in the world of football can engender danger from political jealousies and rivalries back home.

> Africa's confederation – and the game over which it sort of rules – has long been an administrative minefield

FIFA's takeover of CAF is far from a perfect solution. A forensic audit of CAF's accounts and contracts is essential and, ideally, the entire ExCo should be sacked and direct rule imposed from Zurich.

Think about it. FIFA, mired in financial scandal for so many years, is having to sort out CAF. That says everything about how disastrous the African football crisis has become. WS

THE DANGER MAN

The most insidiously pernicious individual operating in football over the last two decades was not Jeff Webb or Jack Warner or Chuck Blazer or any of the other creeps who illicitly feathered their own offshore financial nests.

It was one single individual by the name of Wilson Raj Perumal.

The 53-year-old from Singapore travelled the world for a decade sowing bribes in just about every corner of every continent. The betting turnover generated from his activities can never be estimated accurately but may have run to billions of dollars. For all anyone knows, it may be running still.

FIFA's ethics committee is still working through a gallery of "known" officials and players who took Perumal's cash. The latest are Mooketsi Kgotlele, former general secretary of the Botswana FA, and ex-Sierrea Leone official Abu Bakarr Kabba.

Kgotlele has been banned for life and Bakarr Kabba for five years after being bribed to "manipulate international matches for betting purposes by Mr Wilson Raj Perumal, a known match-fixer." Doubtless there will be more to come, in themselves only a fraction of the guilty.

The FIFAgate crooks skimmed millions of dollars out of the game. But that was "only" money.

Perumal and his band of reprobates stole something far more valuable: football's credibility.

WINNERS

ALGERIA
Won the Africa Cup of Nations for the first time since 1990 with a 1-0 victory in the Final against Senegal.

CONNAH'S QUAY NOMADS
The Welsh part-timers recovered from a 2-1 first-leg home loss to beat Kilmarnock 2-0 in Scotland in the Europa League and win 3-2 on aggregate.

MADAGASCAR
The AFCON debutants stunned Nigeria, winning 2-0 to top their opening-round group in Egypt.

LOSERS

EGYPT
Crashed out of the AFCON earlier than expected in the round of 16.

REAL MADRID
Zinedine Zidane's side were thrashed 7-3 by their city neighbours Atletico in a pre-season friendly in the United States.

VINCENT KOMPANY
The former Manchester City captain began his managerial career in charge of Anderlecht with a 2-1 defeat to Oostende in the opening league game of the season in Belgium.

Jonathan WILSON

TECHNICALLY SPEAKING

Cynical Algeria deserved their victory

The Final of the Africa Cup of Nations was a disgrace, a game settled by a freakish second-minute goal and then systematically spoiled by Algeria.

In a grim sense, that made it the perfect climax for the competition, bringing together two key themes of the previous month: that Algeria were the best side in Egypt, and that they suffered some weird insecurity that meant that whenever they felt under the slightest pressure they fell back to grappling, moaning and time-wasting.

The 1-0 scoreline was in general keeping with the competition as well. The 52 matches in this year's finals yielded just 102 goals, an average of 1.96 per game – the lowest scoring AFCON since 2002.

Back then, atrocious pitches in Mali were blamed, but in Egypt that was no excuse. These were smooth playing surfaces – which meant that slick passing football was possible for those teams who wanted to play it, as proved by Madagascar.

So why the dearth of goals? In part it was the heat; a problem exacerbated by the tournament's shift from January/February to June/July.

The group games that started at 3.30pm local time produced just 1.14 goals per game, while those that kicked off at 5pm or 6pm produced 1.57. And those that began at 8pm or 9pm were better still, with an average of 2.47 goals.

Put simply, the later games kicked off, the more "normal" they felt. In the heat of the afternoon, players were understandably more concerned with conserving their energy and the pace dropped significantly.

Then there was the structure of the tournament. When the four best third-placed sides go through, as 24 sides filter into a last 16, the group stage can become a slog and too many games have little riding on them.

Half of the 10 group-stage draws came in the second round of games as teams that had won their opening match knew four points would almost certainly be enough to carry them through. Similarly, teams that had lost their first game knew a draw would at least keep them alive going into the final round of fixtures.

But there was also something a little more complicated going on.

International football in general produces fewer goals than club football. To an extent that's to do with tournament formats and the disparity in ability that often leads to one side adopting an extremely cautious approach. But it's also to do with the lack of time coaches have with their teams. National bosses do not work with their players every day over several months; rather they get a snatched few days here and there. Understandably, many prefer to work on defensive organisation, and only when a level of competence has been achieved in that respect do they move on to working on developing the sort of mutual understanding in attacking areas that characterises the best club sides.

Rarity...Zimbabwe's Khama Billiat scores against Uganda

That tends to mean a reactive form of defending; sitting deep, with the midfield screening the back line, denying the opposition space in the attacking third.

For a long time, games at international tournaments were characterised by one team – and sometimes both – sitting deep, looking to resist, with the more adept team, suffering from a lack of familiarity, clumsily trying to break them down. That's why, when the pageantry is stripped away, a lot of international football between the 1998 and 2018 World Cups was pretty dreadful.

That was the football that brought Cameroon success two years ago in Gabon and there was some of it in Egypt. Michel Dussuyer's Benin side prospered in the old-fashioned way, which made for a terrible spectacle but sparked wild scenes of celebration back in Cotonou as they reached the quarter-finals.

But despite the lack of goals, this was a tournament that suggested a new mentality. This was the first Final since 1998 – and only the sixth ever – to feature two "local" coaches. The term, though, is awkward and was overtly rejected by Senegal's Aliou

Moaning...Rami Bensebaini of Algeria (left) reacts during the Final

Cisse, as both he and Algeria's Djamel Belmadi played for the countries that they now lead but grew up in a suburb of Paris. Both are the products of European youth development and then of European clubs.

After Nigeria's semi-final exit there were some grumblings among the Nigerian media about their German coach Gernot Rohr not playing "Nigerian football" but such complaints feel increasingly old-fashioned now.

The vast majority of players in the latter stages of the tournament have had similar experiences to Cisse and Belmadi, having been developed by and spent most of their careers at European clubs.

Belmadi, Cisse and Rohr all played notably modern football. They all, to an extent, pressed. They all sought to interchange positions and they all marked zonally.

The impact Belmadi has had in less than a year has been remarkable. His team is exceptionally well-drilled and extremely well-balanced. They were capable of adjusting to close off the space available to Nigeria's wingers in the quarter-finals but also – thanks to the base provided by Adlene Guedioura and the work centre-forward Baghdad Bounedjah did in driving the opposing centre-backs – they had great flexibility in attacking midfield areas.

> This was the first Final since 1998 to feature two "local" coaches

And that's why it's so frustrating that when the prize came within reach they sought to spoil. It's only one aspect of their cynicism but, in the Final, Algeria committed 32 fouls, 15 of them by Guedioura alone. Referees, perhaps, need to be encouraged to take a stricter line on persistent, tactical fouling.

But at the same time, Algeria were deserved winners and, after a series of African champions who seemed like one-offs, it felt like they were ushering in a new age in which pressing and tactical flexibility become the norm. WS

REPORTS WE COULDN'T MAKE UP

Friends in high places...FC Andorra

1 PIQUE'S ANDORRA BUY THEMSELVES PROMOTION

Andorra FC, the club owned by Barcelona defender Gerard Pique, took the place of bankrupt club Reus in Spain's third tier after making a payment of €452,022 to the Spanish FA.

Andorra played and won promotion from the regional fifth tier last season but will now skip a division by jumping to the third-level Segunda B, where they will compete alongside Barcelona B.

As federation rules do not allow for such a move, Pique's relationship with RFEF president Luis Rubiales is believed to have helped the deal to take place.

2 NEYMAR HOSTS FIVE-A-SIDE JAMBOREE

Neymar may have missed most of Brazil's successful Copa America campaign but he "returned" to action to entertain fans at the Neymar Jr Five World Finals, the largest five-a-side football tournament in the world, organised by energy drink giant Red Bull.

Over 100,000 players from 40 countries took part in the competition, which finished at the Instituto Projeto Neymar Jr, in the Praia Grande neighbourhood where Neymar grew up.

All the proceeds from the tournament – which was won by Hungary (men) and Slovakia (women) – are spent on social causes.

3 HIJAB FREESTYLER

Qhouirunnisa' Endang Wahyudi, a Malaysian hijab-wearing teenager, is the latest freestyler to attract attention on social media.

The 19-year-old, who studies Arabic Language at Al Madinah International University, first started freestyling at the age of 16.

She is now getting views on YouTube and her Instagram account has over 72,000 followers.

Football is one of the most popular sports in Malaysia, but is dominated by men, despite the national team being ranked 171st by FIFA.

Qhouirunnisa' trains four days a week for up to three hours every session.

"Being a woman is not an obstacle," she says, "and the headscarf is not an obstacle."

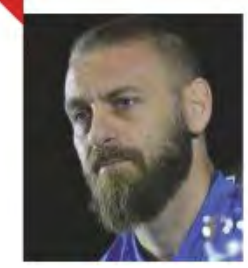
4 SO IT SEEMS THAT YOU CAN BUY EXPERIENCE...

Former Celtic attacking midfielder Shunsuke Nakamura, who played for Japan at the 2006 and 2010 World Cups, joined Yokohama FC from Jubilo Iwata at the age of 41 – but he is nowhere near the oldest player in the Japanese second-tier side.

Playing alongside Nakamura is 52-year-old Kazuyoshi Miura, who signed a new contract with the club in January.

Veteran... Shunsuke Nakamura

Freestyle... Qhouirunnisa' Endang Wahyudi



"I can't finish my career without playing for Boca"

Daniele De Rossi

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

First...Josh Wolff

EUROPE

ANTOINE GRIEZMANN joined Barcelona from Atletico Madrid for €120m. For all the summer's transfers in Europe's top five leagues, go to www.worldsoccer.com

JOHN VAN'T SCHIP took over from Angelos Anastasiadis as coach of Greece.

STEVE BRUCE left Sheffield Wednesday to become manager of Newcastle United.

Scottish Championship side Dundee appointed ex-Scotland boss **GORDON STRACHAN** as technical director.

CONCACAF

AMERICO GALLEGO was appointed coach of Panama.

Technical... Gordon Strachan

Costly...Antoine Griezmann

Former USA international striker **JOSH WOLFF** will be the first ever coach of Austin FC, who are expected to join MLS in 2021.

AFRICA

Moroccan champions Wydad appointed Serbian coach **ZORAN MANOJLOVIC** as the replacement for Faouzi Benzarti.

SEBASTIEN DESABRE returned to club football with Egypt's Pyramids after leaving his post with Uganda.

VICTOR MATINE replaced Abel Xavier as coach of Mozambique, while **KAMOU MALO** took over from Paolo Duarte as boss of Burkina Faso.

ASIA

AKIRA NISHINO became the first ever Japanese coach of Thailand's national team.

Historic...Akira Nishino

De Rossi makes surprise switch to Boca Juniors

Boca boy...with president Daniel Angelici

After 18 years at the same club, 36-year-old **DANIELE DE ROSSI** was expected to announce his retirement on leaving Roma at the end of last season. Instead, the midfielder chose to sign for Boca Juniors in Argentina.

De Rossi was mobbed by crowds waiting at Buenos Aires airport to greet him. "The reception at the airport was incredible," said the Italian. "I can't thank you enough, other than by doing my job as seriously as I can."

Boca's sporting director Nicolas Burdisso, who played with De Rossi at Roma between 2009 and 2014, was a key figure in facilitating the move.

"This place stimulates me, and Nicolas was my guarantee," added De Rossi. "He told me that they are professionals in Boca, and I believe him. He is my friend; he would not have brought me to a place where I wouldn't fit in."

He continued: "I lived for 20 years in a country where football is lived 24 hours a day. I could have chosen a much quieter place to relax, but I only know one way: seriousness, and then I chose to come to a place with the craziest fans in football."

"Belgian football has lost a great personality with the death of Robert Waseige"

Prime minister Charles Michel (right) pays tribute to the country's former national coach

Appointments, sackings and loans

Adventure...Herve Renard

Saudi Arabia appoint Renard

HERVE RENARD will be in charge of Saudi Arabia for their 2022 World Cup qualifying campaign after quitting as coach of Morocco following defeat by Benin at the Africa Cup of Nations.

"Happy to start a new adventure in Saudi Arabia on a new continent," the 50-year-old Frenchman tweeted.

The Saudi Football Federation confirmed the appointment, with its boss Yasser Almisehal saying: "The choice was made on a great name, capable of bringing something extra to Saudi football".

An AFCON winner with Zambia and Ivory Coast, Renard also steered Morocco to the 2018 World Cup finals.

Saudi Arabia will play Uzbekistan, Palestine, Yemen and Singapore in their opening-round World Cup qualifying group.

They begin against Yemen on September 10.

Former Italy boss **ROBERTO DONADONI** replaced ex-Real Madrid coach Juan Ramon Lopez Caro at Chinese Super League side strugglers Shenzhen, while **BRUNO GENESIO** replaced Roger Schmidt in charge of Beijing Guoan.

OUT

Over...John Obi Mikel

EUROPE

Former France defender **PATRICE EVRA** announced his retirement, saying he will "be ready to lead a team" within two years. The 38-year-old won five Premier League titles, two Serie A titles and the Champions League once.

Released by Burnley at the end of last season, former England centre-forward **PETER CROUCH** announced his retirement at the age of 38.

AFRICA

Cameroon sacked **CLARENCE SEEDORF** while Guinea dismissed **PAUL PUT** following elimination from the Africa Cup of Nations in the round of 16. **JAVIER AGUIRRE** left Egypt after their surprise defeat to South Africa, **EMMANUEL AMUNIKE** left his post in charge of Tanzania and **SUNDAY CHIDZAMBGA** resigned as coach of Zimbabwe.

Sacked...Clarence Seedorf

Having joined Trabzonspor following his release by Middlesbrough this summer, Nigeria midfielder **JOHN OBI MIKEL** announced his international retirement, as did fellow countryman **ODION IGHALO**.

Retired...Peter Crouch

OBITUARY

Robert WASEIGE (1939-2019)

Belgian coach of the year three times, he won the League Cup and Belgian Cup with RFC Liege before taking charge of the national team ahead of their hosting of Euro 2000.

He also led his country at the 2002 World Cup finals, where they reached the round of 16, and later coached Algeria.

Nicknamed "The Magician", he was the first Walloon – a native of the French-speaking region in southern Belgium – to coach the national side.

He began his coaching career at Winterslag, guiding the club from Belgium's third division into the top flight in the space of three seasons, before having the first of three spells in charge of Standard Liege.

Brian GLANVILLE

THE VOICE OF FOOTBALL

Unwanted... Gareth Bale

Zidane's treatment of Gareth Bale is a mystery

It has been reported that Real Madrid blocked a move to China for Welsh international attacker Gareth Bale.

Jiangsu Suning are hardly a big name, but with an offer of over a million pounds a week you can hardly blame Bale for being interested. Still only 30 years old, he should have a good many effective seasons in front of him, yet it is understandable that he was ready, on such magnanimous terms, to plunge into what might be called "gilded obscurity".

To give Bale his due, he had been quite ready to stay at Real Madrid, and it remains somewhat strange that Zinedine Zidane is so anxious to get rid of him.

Jonathan Barnett, who is Bale's agent, accused Madrid manager Zidane of being disrespectful to his client. Bale has played for six largely successful years in Spain and letting him go made all the less sense when you take into account a serious injury and protracted absence of another key Real attacker in the shape of Marco Asensio.

Zidane seems to have behaved in a high-handed way, not giving Bale any intimation of why he was so keen to get rid of him. He may well live to regret it. When Bale came off the bench as a substitute to score against Arsenal in a friendly it emphasised the mystery of Zidane's behaviour.

After Rafa Benitez left Newcastle United for a deal worth over £12million a year to manage Dalian Yifang, the Premier League club's owner Mike Ashley said: "He took the soft option, took the money and went to China."

Soft option? In terms of cash it was surely a very tempting one. A manager, far less than a player, has comparatively little to lose by such a move.

The irony is that Chinese football just never seems to improve. Where are the Chinese players in European or South American football? Perhaps it is coaches rather than leading players who are needed for football to develop there after so many years of sterility. WS

High-handed... Zinedine Zidane

> It is understandable that Bale was ready, on such magnanimous terms, to plunge into what might be called "gilded obscurity"

Spurs tripped up over Trippier

Kieran Trippier has made such a bright beginning with Atletico Madrid that Tottenham Hotspur may well be wondering why they let him go, albeit for a fee of £20million.

The England international right-back helped his team to a crushing 7-3 victory against their city rivals Real Madrid on tour in New Jersey.

These are difficult days for the Real manager Zinedine Zidane. At one stage of a disastrous game against Atletico, Real were 6-0 down. Zidane, plainly whistling to keep his spirits up, remarked "I'm not concerned but I'm hurt." Which seems something of a distinction without a difference.

As for a contented Trippier, he says: "I have settled in better than expected to be honest. There is a lot of new faces but the lads make it easier for you when they include you in everything."

It remains somewhat surprising that Spurs were ready to let him go.

Settled... Kieran Trippier

Don't forget Jack

The promotion of Aston Villa, who have been busily buying for the Premier League, makes one wonder how well that talented midfielder, the 23-year-old Jack Grealish, will adapt. Ideally one might see him as a future England player. He does not often score himself but he does make goals for other people.

Poser for Pepe

For three bleak seasons in a row, Arsenal have failed to qualify for the Champions League. Which makes you wonder why as dynamic an attacker as Nicolas Pepe of Lille would ever want to join them, even if in some way or another they scrape up the vast £72million he would cost.

Napoli seemed a far more likely destination. They at least have the money.

Expensive...Nicolas Pepe

James ready for rough treatment in Premier League

A sad sign of these rancorous times to hear the reflections of Manchester United's gifted new £15million winger Daniel James on the ruthless treatment he expects to go on receiving.

The last outrage was especially repugnant. Playing in a so-called friendly against Tottenham Hotspur in Shanghai, he was not only fouled but then stamped on by Moussa Sissoko – an offence which surely merited a long suspension, though given that it happened in so remote a venue I don't suppose that will happen.

It was seemingly by no means the first bad foul he had experienced on his club's summer tour, though it was evidently the worst. James, a Welsh international, was wearily philosophical about it.

"If you watch any of my games last season...I think it's going to happen to me every game," he remarked. "I'm used to it. It's just about getting back up and getting on with it.

"I don't let it get in my head and just keep going. The Sissoko one, I nipped in just before and he fouled me at the edge of the box in a good position. Part of my game is about winning those fouls and getting in good positions."

James thinks he generally gets sufficient protection from referees, adding: "I'd say in these friendly games the refs are a bit more lenient, maybe a bit more lenient than they are at home."

Target...Daniel James is fouled by Moussa Sissoko

What's wrong with Lukaku?

You tend to wonder why Manchester United seemed so ready to divest themselves of giant Belgian centre-forward Romelu Lukaku, albeit at a price which Internazionale, managed by the striker's keen admirer Antonio Conte, were prepared to pay.

There was, after all, a substantial difference between the £89million his English club seemed to value him at and the reported £57m which Inter wanted apparently to pay.

Puzzling that Ole Gunnar Solskjaer should want to dispose of him. On United's pre-season tour, four home-grown players showed lively form, with Angel Gomes scoring against Spurs.

The step up to the Premier League, however, even for the most promising youngsters, tends to be a steep one.

Shawcross lives by the sword...

Those who live by the sword, you might say. Stoke City's formidable centre-back Ryan Shawcross, largely famed for giving rather than taking, has just become the victim of a suspected broken leg during a game against Leicester City.

As he attempted a sliding tackle on Marc Albrighton just before half-time, he had the misfortune to catch the studs of his left boot in the turf and had to be given oxygen as the match was held up for more than eight minutes.

Stoke will not find it easy to replace a player like Shawcross.

Injured...Ryan Shawcross

● Read Brian Glanville's weekly online column at worldsoccer.com

eye witness

Steve Menary reports

SAN MARINO

End of the dream

The Champions League is already over for the best team in Europe's worst league

For the worst league in Europe, San Marino's Campionato reached a thrilling conclusion last season. Trailing 1-0 to holders and overwhelming favorites La Fiorita in the play-off Final, Tre Penne equalised in the seven minutes of injury time with a goal from Stefano Fraternali.

As the club's ultras, Tifosi Corretti Sambuca (TFC), used a loud hailer to broadcast support from a balcony on a building overlooking the Stadio Fonte Dell'Ovo, Tre Penne went on to win 3-1 and claim their place in this season's Champions League preliminaries.

That was on May 25. A month later, Tre Penne were out of the Champions League, beaten 1-0 by FC Santa Coloma of Andorra.

Their exit was disappointing because, although the national team is one of the world's weakest sides, Sammarinese clubs have been showing tentative signs of improvement – which makes watching their games more appealing than those of the national side.

"Sometimes it's embarrassing to watch the national team," sighs Tommaso Verzini, one of the TFC ultras' leaders. "That's why we don't follow them. The players know they are going to lose. They are going to resist and maybe to score.

"It makes me cry. You can feel the agony among the players."

The agony has reduced somewhat for San Marino at club level, and those appearances in European competition which used to involve heavy defeats, even against clubs from other small countries, have mainly stopped.

In July 2013, Tre Penne became the first Sammarinese club to win a game in Europe, beating Armenian side Shirak 1-0 in a Champions League qualifier, although they still went out, losing 3-1 on aggregate. In 2018, Tre Fiori became the first Sammarinese club to win a continental tie, beating Bala Town from Wales 3-1 on aggregate in a Europa League preliminary.

This season, in addition to Tre Penne's defeat, La Fiorita and Tre Fiori both went out of the Europa League in the preliminary round. But as Enrico Cibelli, a Sammarinese international who plays for Tre Penne, explains: "Our league has improved because there are opportunities to play in Europe and the Champions League."

For most clubs, European competition is a significant source of income, and just appearing in the Champions League preliminaries is worth around €460,000. However, in a system that is inconceivable almost anywhere else in Europe, all the UEFA money earned by Sammarinese clubs is pooled and then split 15 ways by the national federation, the Federazione Sammarinese Giuoco Calcio (FSGC).

In 2017, club revenue in San Marino averaged €100,000 – making its teams the poorest off the pitch in Europe as well as on it – and according to UEFA's latest

Champions... Tre Penne

Final...Tre Penne and La Fiorita

Picture: FSGC

> "Sometimes it's embarrassing to watch the national team. That's why we don't follow them. The players know they are going to lose"
>
> **Tre Penne supporter, Tommaso Verzini**

financial report, Sammarinese clubs get no money from transfers, with only 14 per cent of revenue coming from gate receipts. There is no money from broadcast rights as only the Campionato Final is shown on live television.

Instead, clubs rely on what UEFA describes as "'other revenue". For example, La Fiorita receive backing from a cleaning company, a health clinic and the national bank, while Tre Penne's sponsors include a garage and a fashion boutique sponsor. Clubs such as Virtus run their own lotteries.

This sharing of UEFA money has certainly produced diversity, with every club having either won the Campionato or finished runners-up since it first began in 1985. But that is also partly due to a convoluted league system that does not even include the country's biggest team, as San Marino Calcio play in Italy's Serie D and stage home games 75km away in Ravenna with a team that features few Sammarinese players.

Today's Campionato has 15 teams – after Aurora failed in the 1980s and two other sides merged in 2000 – and each September they are split into two groups: one of eight clubs and one of seven. After playing each other once, a top division (Group 1) is created with the top four from each group. The others go into a second-tier group (Group 2). The top six teams from Group 1 and the leading pair from Group 2 then enter a knockout to determine the national champion.

This system allowed Tre Penne to

Adventure...Tre Fiori (white shorts) take on Bala Town in last season's Europa League

Picture: Naomi Jones

overcome a lousy start to last season and win a place in the knockout by finishing top of the second tier, before their surprise victory over La Fiorita.

Among those wanting to change the system is La Fiorita president Roberto Bollini, who says: "Some clubs want to play in Europe, some clubs just want to survive and some clubs just want to play."

This summer, San Marino co-hosted the Euro Under-21 finals with Italy, staging three group games in Serravalle. Yet of all the small countries in UEFA, San Marino is the only one to show virtually no sign of improvement when it comes to results.

In 1993 San Marino held Turkey to a goalless draw in their first World Cup qualifying campaign and in 2013 the under-21s beat Wales 1-0 in a Euro qualifier for the country's first competitive win. Under coach Pierangelo Manzaroli, the under-21s kept another clean sheet in the same qualifying campaign, holding Finland 0-0 at home, and after taking charge of the senior team in 2014 he saw San Marino hold Estonia 0-0 in a Euro qualifier to avoid defeat for the first time in a decade. Since then, every senior match has been lost and even goals remain rare.

Record goalscorer ...Andy Selva

"We play against players like Rooney on the Xbox and then we play against them for real," says Mirko Palazzi, who scored against Azerbaijan in 2017 and in more than 50 national appearances has played twice at Wembley against England, losing both games 5-0.

After an 8-0 thrashing by Germany in World Cup qualifying in 2016, Bayern Munich's Thomas Muller said such games were pointless and, in response, the FSGC issued a stinging 10-point rebuttal. But the federation has not helped itself with an idealistic stance in refusing to nationalise players.

"People say we should look for the next Massimo Bonini, but he is famous because of what he did with Juventus," sighs Bollini. "But we should be looking for the next Andy Selva, who was from Rome."

Born in San Marino, Bonini famously did much of the running as a defensive

Progress...hosting games at this summer's Euro Under-21 finals (left) and losing 8-0 to Germany (below)

Movers & Shakers

MARCO TURA
Elected president of the Sammarinese association (FSGC) in January 2017 but not universally popular as he used to be a ref rather than a player.

FRANCO VARRELLA
Part of Arrigo Sacchi's back-room team for Italy in the 1994 World Cup and became the first foreign coach of San Marino's beleaguered national team in January 2018.

LUCA MANCINI
President of ailing San Marino Calcio, who just survived in Italy's Serie D last season but are plagued by financial problems.

NICOLA NANNI
San Marino's great hope, the teenager made his senior debut against Moldova in 2018 and is on the books of Serie B side Crotone.

MASSIMO BONINI
Winner of the European Cup and three Serie A titles with Juventus but ignored requests to play for Italy at senior level. Won 19 caps in his thirties when San Marino began to play internationals in 1990. Now the FSGC's technical director.

Picture: FSGC

Showdown...Tre Penne (in blue) and La Fiorita

midfielder behind Michel Platini in Juve's legendary 1980s side and he rebuffed numerous approaches to play for Italy as this would have meant giving up his Sammarinese passport.

After Bonini, the eccentric Selva is probably the best-known Sammarinese player. Born to a Sammarinese mother, he played professionally in Italy for SPAL, Padova, Sassuolo and Verona, and is San Marino's record scorer with eight goals in 73 games, between 1998 and 2016. His international tally includes the goal in his country's sole international win – a 1-0 victory over Liechtenstein in a friendly in July 2004.

But to the frustration of Bollini, the FSGC does not appear interested in looking for eligible Sammarinese players among a diaspora in places as disparate as Buenos Aires and Detroit, which some believe exceeds the current domestic population of 33,400.

Rather than look for eligible players, the FSGC has tinkered with eligibility rules in the Campionato. Previously, clubs could have no more than half-a-dozen foreigners in their squads. But this proved easy to get round as any players with a work permit counted as local.

> "We play against players like Rooney on the Xbox and then we play against them for real"
> **San Marino international Mirko Palazzi**

So, from last season, all clubs had to have a minimum of two players eligible for the national team on the pitch at all times. But in the heat of a game that can be a challenge – as Tre Penne found out.

At the start of last season, Palazzi was injured in a game against Folgore. When Cibelli was then substituted, Alex Gasperoni was the only Sammarinese player left on the pitch. The match finished 0-0 but the FSGC awarded Folgore a 3-0 win.

No other clubs subsequently fell foul of the new rule, but two players is not enough for ex-coach Manzaroli or the eternally popular Giampaolo Mazza, the national coach from 1998 to 2013, who says: "We need more."

And if the FSGC does increase the quota, the clubs are likely to demand reform of the system of sharing UEFA money to benefit the bigger clubs...just like the rest of Europe. WS

CAMPIONATO 2019-20

SP CAILUNGO
Based in Borgo Maggiore and founded in 1974. Chairman is Paolo Rondelli, San Marino's ambassador to the USA during George W Bush's term in office.

SS COSMOS
Based in Serravalle and founded in 1979, took their name from New York Cosmos. Chairman is Luca Della Balda. Four cup victories but only league title was in 2001.

FC DOMAGNO
Formed in 1966, won eight Coppa Titanos and four Campionatos – the last in 2005.

SS FAETANO
Founded in 1962 and won the league in its inaugural season, in 1986, but the last of their three titles was 20 years ago.

FC FIORENTINO
Founded in 1974 as SS Montevito. Sole title was in 1992. Changed name in 2005.

SS FOLGORE FALCIANO
Founded in 1972. The last of four Campionatos was in 2015. In their sixth European appearance last season, they finally avoided defeat, drawing 1-1 with Andorran side Engordany in the Europa League – but lost 3-2 on aggregate.

AC JUVENES/DOGANA
From Serravalle, founded from a 2000 merger and lifted the Coppa Titano three times since. Played in the Sammarinese and Italian leagues until 2007.

SP LA FIORITA
From Montegiardino, the smallest of San Marino's nine communes, and winner of five titles. Roberto Bollini replaced Alan Gasperoni as president last summer.

AC LIBERTAS
Formed in 1928 and based in Borgo Maggiore, the club's only title was in 1996.

SS MURATA
Won three titles in a row up to 2008 but none since. In 2007 the club signed 41-year-old Brazilian star Aldair.

SS PENNAROSSA
Based in Chiesanuova and founded in 1968. Won their only title in 2004.

AS SAN GIOVANNI
From Borgo Maggiore and founded in 1948 by a parish priest. Chairman is Valerio Zanotti.

SP TRE FIORI
Founded in 1949 and won a record seven titles but none since 2011. Chairman is Marino Casali. Third last season.

SP TRE PENNE
Originally started by Sammarinese Fascist Party leader Manlio Gozi in 1928 but fell apart during WWII. Reformed after the war and this year won their fourth title since first claiming the crown in 2012.

SS VIRTUS
Based in Acquaviva and founded in 1964, but have had little success and failed to win a game last season.

eyewitness

Phil Gordon reports

SPAIN

Mallorca back in business

Wild celebrations as Balearics club returns to the Spanish top flight

Sometimes it's good to dip a toe into other people's football passion. On the night of Sunday June 23, the Balearic island of Mallorca was wrapped up in the biggest party it had known. But for once it was the locals, not the holidaymakers, who were letting their hair down.

Just being a tourist in Palma that night, after RCD Mallorca had clinched their return to Spain's top flight after six years in the wilderness, meant that sharing in the joy was a privilege.

Over at the Estadi de Son Moix, a 23,000 full house – some of who had paid hundreds of euros on the black market to get a ticket – exploded into colour and celebration. The 3-0 defeat of Deportivo La Coruna in the Segunda Division play-off dramatically erased the 2-0 defeat for Vincente Moreno's side in Galicia three nights earlier and sealed a remarkable promotion.

With that Monday being a public holiday in Mallorca, there was plenty of time for the hangover to wear off and still make the two civic receptions for Moreno and his players: one at the town hall in the afternoon, the other at night on Palma's historic Plaza de las Tortugas in front of thousands of Mallorca fans – and the odd Scottish tourist.

This was no ordinary promotion party. Only when you peel back the layers of the past six years do you realise where Mallorca have been. Financial chaos saw a club that reached the 1999 Cup-winners Cup Final – before losing 2-1 to Lazio in Birmingham – drop into Spain's third tier, the Segunda B.

> "It used to be that leaving La Liga was an economic catastrophe. Not now"
> **La Liga president Javier Tebas**

Mallorca had finished last season in fifth place and then beat Albacete 2-1 on aggregate in the play-off semi-finals. Ante Budimir's first-half goal at San Moix followed by Salva Sevilla's stunning free-kick on the hour levelled the Final before Abdon Prats came off the bench to net the crucial 82nd-minute winner.

Nothing could have been more symbolic than Prats scoring. The striker grew up in Arta on the island and was a product of Mallorca's youth system. He later joined Tenerife and Racing Santander, but came back in 2017 when Mallorca were relegated into Segunda B and his 37 goals were crucial in securing the title in 2018.

The meagre crowds for most of those games were in stark contrast to the win over Depor and the first full house at San Moix since Barcelona in 2012. Now, Lionel Messi and the rest of La Liga's star-studded cast will be coming back to Palma this season.

Visits to the Nou Camp and Bernabeu will not just be cherished by Moreno – who has never coached in La Liga – and his players, but also by Mallorca's owner, Robert Sarver, who risked €36million of his own cash in backing the club.

Not even the loss of professional football scared the American away

Celebration...players join supporters in the Plaza de las Tortugas

Second leg...Mallorca's Iddrisu Baba (in red) in action against Deportivo La Coruna

Fan...tennis star Rafael Nadal was at the play-off Final

from the project. Sarver also owns Phoenix Suns basketball team but the glamour of the NBA was a million miles away when he turned up for Mallorca's first game in Segunda B on August 20, 2017.

The photograph of the billionaire queuing up for the only toilet at the Municipal de Peralda – a portaloo – was a cameo of the task facing Mallorca. Artificial pitches, tiny stands, not much in the way of a crowd. However, Moreno's side came through their test of away games at village sports centres, and now everyone at Mallorca can share in La Liga.

Exchanging Peralda for Camp Nou is not the only bonus. So, too is the lucrative slice of La Liga's television revenue. As a promoted club, Mallorca will net €45m, compared to just €5m in the Segunda, starting with their first match, at home to Eibar.

The Spanish tax agency is actually the greatest beneficiary of Mallorca's promotion as the club owed €17m in deferred tax payments, consumed by mismanagement off the pitch – and four different owners – after dropping into the second tier in 2013.

Going up...(from left) Manolo Reina, Antonio Raillo and Martin Valjent

Moreno kept faith with many of the players who had got Mallorca out of the third tier and the squad shared a €3.2m bonus for reaching La Liga, whose president, Javier Tebas, praised Mallorca's chief executive, Maheta Molango, for the club's "proper management". Tebas added: "It used to be that leaving La Liga was an economic catastrophe. Not now."

When Sarver took over in 2016 he took care of the outstanding €6m payment to creditors. His partners are also American, with former NBA star Steve Nash on the board, while Andy Kohlberg, the Mallorca president, was a US tennis player.

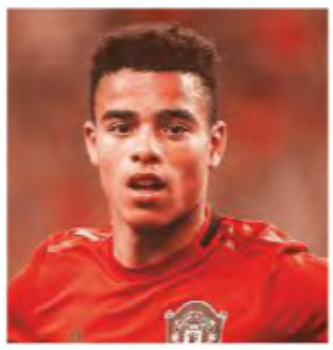
Ahead of the new campaign, Martin Valjent and Croatian striker Budimir, who were on loan last season from Chievo and Crotone respectively, signed permanent deals, while Argentinian striker Pablo Chavarria arrived from Reims and Aleksandr Sedlar, a Serb defender, came in from Polish champions Piast Gliwice. Alex Alegria (Real Betis), Josep Sene (Deportivo Leonesa) and Aleix Febias (Real Madrid B) have also joined. WS

Top six becomes top three

Back...Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain is fit and raring to go

PLAYERS TO WATCH

RHIAN BREWSTER
(Liverpool)
The teenage striker has spent more than a year sidelined while recovering from a serious injury but he now looks set to be given his chance by manager Jurgen Klopp.



MASON GREENWOOD
(Manchester United)
The 17-year-old striker featured prominently on United's pre-season tour of Asia and fits manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's preference for blooding youth.

PABLO FORNALS
(West Ham United)
Attacking midfielder who was signed on a five-year deal from Villarreal in a £24m deal. He was one of the stars of Spain's European Under-21 success this summer.

CHRISTIAN PULISIC
(Chelsea)
American who was signed by Chelsea in January and then loaned back to Borussia Dortmund. He has talent but can he fill the Eden Hazard-sized gap?

TANGUY NDOMBELE
(Tottenham Hotspur)
At £55.4m from Lyon, the 22-year-old French international is a record signing for Spurs who feel he will bring an added dynamism to their midfield.

English football's top six (Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool, Tottenham Hotspur and the Manchester clubs, City and United) have dominated the Premier League for more than a decade, with no other side finishing in the top four Champions League places since Everton in 2005 – with the notable exception of winners Leicester City in 2016.

But this season there is a growing feeling that the top six could morph into a top three, with City, Liverpool and Spurs moving away from everybody else.

After last term's neck-and-neck league campaign, City and Liverpool are again obvious front runners, while Tottenham – with their confidence fired by exploits in the Champions League and a fine new stadium – are best placed to push them.

Meanwhile, Chelsea, Arsenal and Manchester United all have issues that could inhibit genuine title challenges.

For the champions City, their biggest problems lie off the pitch, with UEFA investigators pursuing a Champions League ban for possible financial transgressions. On the pitch, Pep Guardiola's men have been close to perfection, with Rodri, a summer acquisition for a record £62.8million, adding to City's rich midfield options. The Spaniard will be a long-term replacement for Fernandinho, who could also drop back into central defence to fill the gap left by Vincent Kompany's departure.

Over at Liverpool, the euphoria generated by an exhilarating sixth European Cup success has yet to subside. The return to action of Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain gives manager Jurgen Klopp a valuable new option in midfield, but it remains to be seen whether the summer's international exertions will blunt their attack: Roberto Firmino was in Brazil's Copa America-winning side, while Sadio Mane and Mohamed Salah both featured at the Africa Cup of Nations in Egypt.

Pole position... Pep Guardiola's Manchester City

Tottenham's midfield has been boosted by the record signing of dynamic French international Tanguy Ndombele from Lyon, their first incoming deal for 18 months. The sale of Kieran Trippier to Atletico Madrid was a surprise and could lead to a radical overhaul of the back line, but the continued presence of Mauricio Pochettino in the dugout remains a cause for optimism.

Across London at Chelsea, less may prove to be more for the Europa League winners. The appointment of former hero Frank Lampard as manager in place of Juventus-bound Maurizio Sarri represents a fundamental change in the club's direction for the first time since Roman Abramovich arrived in 2003.

Sarri, despite finishing in the top four and winning a European trophy, failed to connect with the fans. Lampard, despite his managerial inexperience – just one season with Derby County – is a popular figure at Stamford Bridge and the club's first English manager since Glenn Hoddle in the mid-1990s. His popularity may buy Lampard much

> His popularity may buy Frank Lampard much needed time as Chelsea operate under a global transfer ban and prepare for life after Eden Hazard

RODRI
(Manchester City)
City met the £62.8m release clause in his Atletico Madrid contract and broke their own transfer record to sign the 23-year-old Spanish central midfielder.

RAVEL MORRISON
(Sheffield United)
Promoted United have taken a punt on a player who Alex Ferguson once described as better than Rooney and Giggs, but whose career has since gone off the rails.

WESLEY
(Aston Villa)
Tall Brazilian centre-forward who began his European career in Slovakia. Joined Villa from Club Brugge for £22m. Worked in a screw factory as a 16-year-old.

CHE ADAMS
(Southampton)
One of the brightest attacking talents in the Championship looks to be good business at a modest fee, costing £15m from Birmingham. Former England under-20 cap.

SEBASTIEN HALLER
(West Ham United)
Prolific goalscorer and one of the stars of Eintracht Frankfurt's Europa League run last season. A coup for the Hammers, albeit an expensive one at £45m.

needed time as the club operates under a global transfer ban and prepares for life after Eden Hazard.

Lampard has already indicated he will favour youth, with opportunities for Tammy Abraham, Mason Mount and Reece James as well as England's Ruben Loftus-Cheek and Callum Hudson-Odoi. The reliance on youth is laudable but Chelsea supporters will need patience if Lampard is to succeed in the long term.

At Arsenal, Unai Emery prepared for the new season amid protests from fan groups who called on owner Stan Kroenke to "reinvigorate" the club. The American billionaire was accused of being "passive" and using the club as an "investment vehicle". Kroenke's son Josh, a club director, responded by claiming Arsenal had a "Champions League wage bill with a Europa League transfer budget". That would explain the low offers for full-back Kieran Tierney and winger Wilfried Zaha that were dismissed by Celtic and Crystal Palace respectively.

Kroenke Junior deserves praise for engaging with fans in a way that his father has so far refused to do, but Arsenal remain a club lacking in leadership following the departure of CEO Ivan Gazidis to Milan. The appointment of former midfielder Edu as director of football may improve matters.

Manchester United's transfer strategy is crying out to be overseen by a director of football as manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer attempts to recruit for a Europa League campaign. The emphasis on youth was clear with the signings of winger Daniel James (Swansea) and Aaron Wan-Bissaka (Crystal Palace) but the ongoing stand-off with Paul Pogba suggests that many of the player-power problems faced by Jose Mourinho remain.

Youth... Aaron Wan-Bissaka

Below the top six, the challengers are lining up. Wolves, impressive last season when finishing seventh, concluded deals for the previously on-loan Leander Dendoncker (Anderlecht) and Raul Jimenez (Benfica) but face the added challenge of a European campaign for the first time in almost 40 years.

Leicester look like they have regained their mojo under Brendan Rodgers, with interesting deals for Belgian midfielder Youri Tielemans (Monaco), striker Ayoze Perez (Newcastle) and full-back Justin James (Luton).

> Newcastle increasingly look like a Championship squad with a Championship manager

Interesting... Youri Tielemans

Everton, who have done a permanent deal for Andre Gomes (Barcelona) and added Fabian Delph (Man City), will be a threat if they can add consistency to last season's more impressive performances.

West Ham could challenge following the exciting transfers of forwards Sebastien Haller (Eintracht Frankfurt) and Pablo Fornals (Villarreal). The departures of Andy Carroll and Marko Arnautovic suggest Manuel Pellegrini is crafting a team in his own image.

It could be a more competitive bottom half of the table compared to last season. Promoted Aston Villa have invested heavily in new signings, but in contrast to Fulham's supermarket sweep a year ago they have bought players known to manager Dean Smith.

The other promoted sides, Norwich City and Sheffield United, begin as relegation favourites, along with Newcastle United, where Steve Bruce was persuaded to take on the onerous task of replacing Rafa Benitez, who opted to sign a lucrative contract with Chinese side Dalian Yifang after losing patience with owner Mike Ashley. "I didn't just want to sign an extended contract, I wanted to be part of a project," said Benitez.

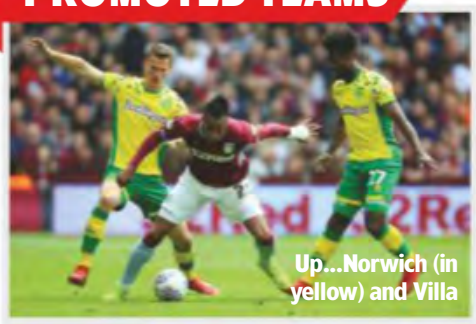
Newcastle's problems were compounded by Leicester taking advantage to step in and pay a £30m release clause for Perez, the club's top scorer last season. Newcastle increasingly look like a Championship squad with a Championship manager.

Southampton look set to continue their resurgence under Austrian boss Ralph Husenhuttl but a number of other teams look harder to call. Crystal Palace were battling to keep star winger Zaha, while Brighton are seeking a more attacking direction under the innovative but inexperienced Graham Potter, formerly of Swansea and previously with Ostersund.

Meanwhile, how well will Watford respond to last season's FA Cup Final humiliation? And can Bournemouth and Burnley continue to defy the odds under English managers Eddie Howe and Sean Dyche respectively?

Gavin Hamilton

PROMOTED TEAMS



Up...Norwich (in yellow) and Villa

NORWICH CITY
The Championship winners have been reinvigorated by German coach Daniel Farke since relegation from the Premier League two years ago. Signings so far have been modest.

SHEFFIELD UNITED
Back in the top flight for the first time since 2007 with a local-born manager in Chris Wilder, who has worked his way through the divisions.

ASTON VILLA
Play-off winners over Derby County, they have spent heavily over the summer, including £20m on defender Tyrone Mings (Bournemouth), £22m on Brazilian striker Wesley (Brugge) and £12m on defender Ezri Konsa (Brentford). They have also kept a gem in midfielder Jack Grealish.

Permanent ...Leander Dendoncker

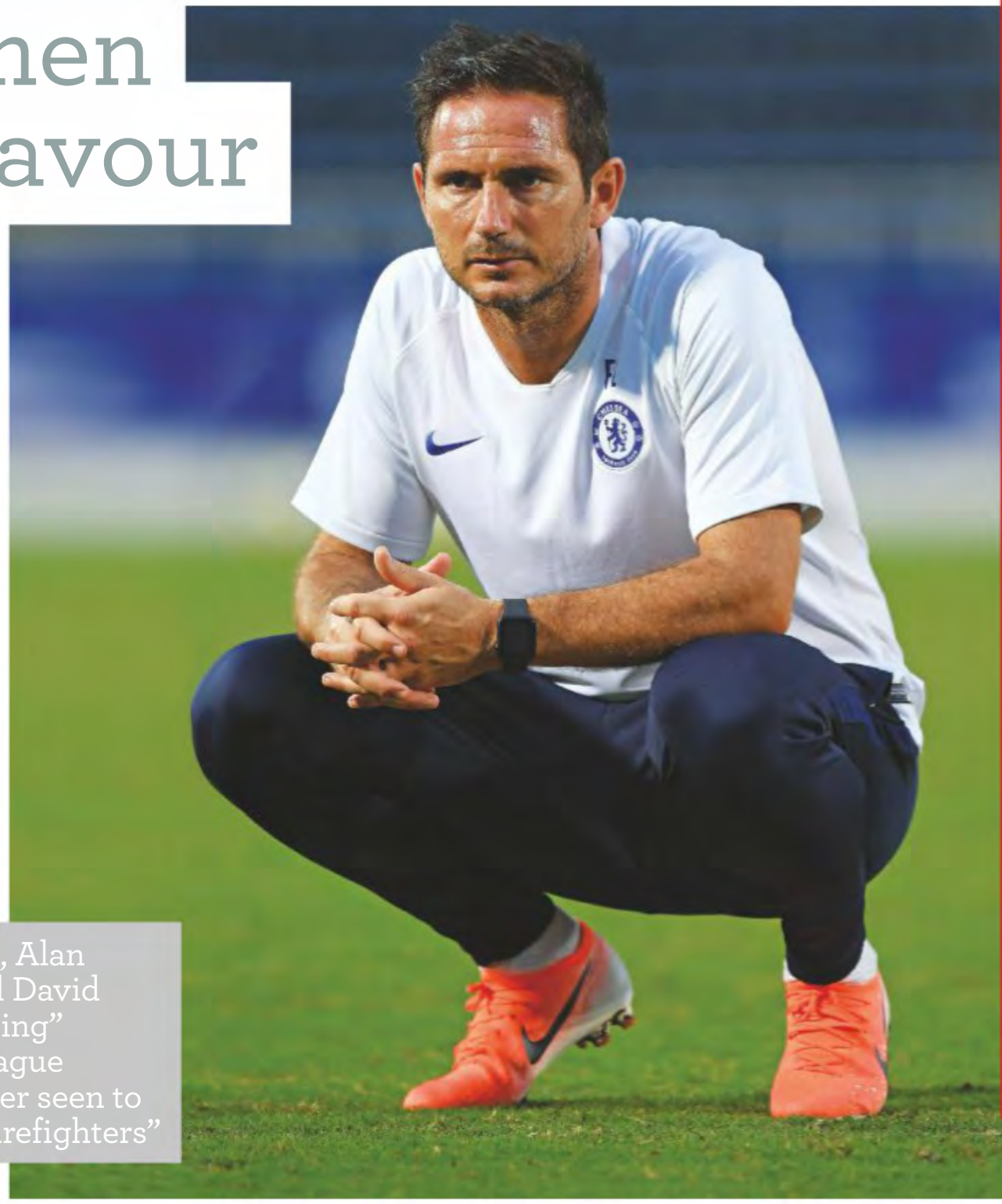
Englishmen back in favour

The new season kicks off with English managers in charge of eight Premier League clubs, the most at the start of a campaign since 2004. From last season, Roy Hodgson, Eddie Howe and Sean Dyche are joined by new Chelsea boss Frank Lampard, Dean Smith and Chris Wilder from promoted Aston Villa and Sheffield United respectively, Graham Potter, recruited by Brighton & Hove Albion from Swansea City, and Steve Bruce, lured away from Sheffield Wednesday to fill the gap left by Rafa Benitez's exit at Newcastle United.

With Northern Irishman Brendan Rodgers back in England at Leicester City, the total of British managers rises to nine, almost half of the Premier League.

Most of the new breed of English managers reflect the changing nature of domestic football. Happy to be described as coaches rather than managers, the class of 2019 are a far cry from the traditional all-powerful English "gaffer".

> Sam Allardyce, Tony Pulis, Alan Pardew, Mark Hughes and David Moyes – all currently "resting" after their last Premier League employment – are no longer seen to have viable currency as "firefighters"



Blues boss... Frank Lampard

Lampard, the first Englishman to be in charge of a top-four side since Harry Redknapp took Tottenham Hotspur into the Champions League in 2010, enjoyed moderate success in one Championship season with Derby County and owes his appointment more to Chelsea's global transfer ban than any coaching ability he may have demonstrated in his first managerial job. However, the 41-year-old looks to be the right man at the right time for Chelsea, ready to blood youngsters from the club's extensive network of talented youth players.

In many ways Wilder is a throwback to simpler times. Sheffield-born, he played for United, the club he supported as a boy, before embarking on a playing career around the lower divisions. He then worked his way through the leagues as a manager, winning promotions with Oxford United and Northampton Town before a move back to Sheffield United, who he has taken from League One to the Premier League.

Like Wilder, Villa's Smith learned his trade in the lower leagues, with Walsall and Brentford, earning a reputation for attacking football on a limited budget.

Brighton's Potter has attained a similar stature, albeit via the unlikely environs of Ostersund, who rose from Sweden's fourth tier to play in the Europa League under his guidance. At Swansea last season he steadied a listing ship, blooding youngsters while almost knocking Manchester City out of the FA Cup. Brighton are hoping Potter's attacking philosophy will mark a positive progression from the safety-first approach of Chris Hughton, who was sacked at the end of last season after the club sailed dangerously close to relegation.

Old school...Steve Bruce (centre)

Only Bruce represents the old-style British manager. The likes of Sam Allardyce, Tony Pulis, Alan Pardew, Mark Hughes and David Moyes – all currently "resting" after their last Premier League employment – are no longer seen to have viable currency as "firefighters". Things may change during the season, but they appear to be a declining force.

The most successful mid-term appointment last season was Ralph Hasenhuttl, the Austrian who replaced Hughes at Southampton and quickly steered them away from danger with a high-energy pressing game.

Interestingly, there are now more foreign managers further down the leagues. The Championship kicks off with nine foreign coaches, including Slaven Bilic at West Bromwich Albion, Phillip Cocu at Derby County and Marcelo Bielsa at Leeds United.

Frenchman Sabri Lamouchi was the latest to arrive, replacing Martin O'Neill at Nottingham Forest.

Lyon closing in on PSG

At the risk of sounding like a broken record, where else do you start a preview of a French league campaign than with current champions and media magnets Paris Saint-Germain?

Despite winning last season's Ligue 1 title at a canter – they finished 16 points clear of second-place Lille – once again PSG failed to establish themselves as a major European force; something that has been their Holy Grail ever since Qatari investors took over the capital club back in 2011.

Additionally, they landed neither the French Cup nor the League Cup (both of which had been bagged the previous season), ended the campaign with both on and off-the-pitch scandals surrounding star player Neymar, and then discovered their Qatari president, Nasser Al Khelaifi, was being charged by a French judge with corruption over his country's bid to host the world athletics championships. And that's without even mentioning a disastrous Champions League exit to an average Manchester United side in the round of 16.

Problems...Neymar training in Shenzhen, China

PSG coach Thomas Tuchel became almost a comedy figure towards the end of the season, regularly bemoaning his side's ill-fortune with injuries. Maybe he was making the case that the disappointing campaign wasn't entirely his fault. If that was true then it worked, because the German signed a year-long contract extension to 2021.

At the moment, fans aren't sure whether this is good or bad news.

What they are pleased about is the return of Brazilian Leonardo as director of sport, replacing the Portuguese Antero Henrique. The former PSG player had filled the role in Paris between 2011 and 2013, and his first major task has

PLAYERS TO WATCH

TIMOTHY WEAH
(Lille)
The 19-year-old American has had to carry the weight of being George Weah's son. On loan at Celtic last season, he arrives in Lille on a five-year deal and the club have high hopes for him.

ANDER HERRERA
(Paris Saint-Germain)
The Spanish international joined on a free transfer from Manchester United and will add yet more bite to PSG's midfield. A partnership with Marco Verratti could be something to be reckoned with.

JOACHIM ANDERSEN
(Lyon)
The Danish centre-back was one of Serie A's top defenders and Lyon will feel they have pulled off a real coup in bagging his signature from Sampdoria. Can he add defensive steel to a title bid?

Dream team...Lyon president Jean-Michel Aulas with new coach Sylvinho (left) and sporting director Juninho (right)

been to deal with Neymar, whose injury problems meant he made just 17 league starts in the last campaign.

Neymar returned late for pre-season training and Tuchel admitted that the Brazilian has said he wants to return to former club Barcelona. Word is that Neymar received a severe dressing down from Leonardo in front of his team-mates for his late return, and the director of sport seems in no mood to play games. "Neymar can leave PSG if there's an offer that suits everyone," he says. "But up to now we don't know if anyone wants to buy him."

> "Neymar can leave PSG if there's an offer that suits everyone. But up to now we don't know if anyone wants to buy him"
>
> **PSG sporting director Leonardo**

Test...Lyon's Fernando Marcal (left) takes on Arsenal in a friendly

While that saga rumbles on, PSG have been busy in the transfer market. There were reasonably big-money departures as midfielder Christopher Nkunku went to RB Leipzig (€15m), striker Timothy Weah joined Lille (€10m) and midfielder Grzegorz Krychowiak left for Lokomotiv Moscow in a permanent deal. The long-running stand-off between the club and French international midfielder Adrien Rabiot also finally came to an end as the midfielder joined Juventus, where goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon also made a surprise return. Brazilian full-back Dani Alves also departed.

Joining the champions are midfielders Pablo Sarabia (Sevilla, €19.5m) and Idrissa Gueye (Everton, €32m), along with defender Abdou Diallo (Borussia Dortmund, €32m). The cutest bit of business, though, looks to be the arrival of midfielder Ander Herrera on a free from Manchester United.

Expectations are sky high, but can Tuchel finally get PSG a place at Europe's top table?

It will be interesting to see how last season's surprise package Lille will fare this season.

After a superb campaign under coach Christophe Galtier, the northern outfit finished in a highly creditable second spot. They had the best defensive record, conceding just 33 goals in their 38 league matches, while scoring an impressive 68 goals themselves.

Midfielder Thiago Mendes and

PROMOTED SIDES

Challenge...Brest

METZ
Led Ligue 2 for most of last season and finished as champions. They've lost no key players and have added some talented youth. Thierry Ambrose joined on loan from Manchester City and Victorien Angban made a loan move from last season permanent after leaving Chelsea. Could they be the surprise package this season?

BREST
In Ligue 2 since 2013, they managed to grab an automatic promotion spot by finishing second with 74 points last season. However, they haven't made many personnel changes and this campaign will be a challenge.

defender Youssouf Kone have both left for Lyon, however, and star striker Nicolas Pepe is on his way too. There have been arrivals, but no big names, and Galtier will have his work cut out to replicate last season's feats while also dealing with the added pressure of Champions League football.

Lyon look better equipped to push on this term, but there are nonetheless question marks. They replaced their unpopular coach Bruno Genesio with the Brazilian Sylvinho in the close season, while hugely popular former Lyon midfielder Juninho has returned to the club as sporting director.

President Jean-Michel Aulas hopes this untested "Dream Team" can turn Lyon into serious rivals to PSG, but three key players have departed. Midfielder Tanguy Ndombele has joined Tottenham Hotspur, left-back Ferland Mendy went to Real Madrid and midfielder Nabil Fekir headed to Real Betis. Besides the recruits from Lille, Lyon have also brought in Sampdoria's Danish centre-back Joachim Andersen. All this makes for a lot of change for one close season and it remains to be seen how Lyon cope.

Preparation... Patrick Vieira

Of the other teams in Ligue 1, plenty of eyes will be on Marseille under Andre Villas-Boas. Last season was yet another massive underachievement for the American-owned outfit and the club's notoriously demanding fans will have very little patience if things start badly. There's been precious little transfer activity and striker Mario Balotelli hasn't extended his six-month contract, which leaves them short of firepower.

Elsewhere, 1998 French World Cup-winner Patrick Vieira is preparing for his second campaign as coach of Nice after finishing seventh last time out.

Reims were promoted to the top flight in 2018 and under David Guion finished eighth, an excellent performance that was achieved with the help of loanees Baba Rahman from Chelsea and Sheyi Ojo from Liverpool. Both players have returned to their parent clubs and, with the Belgian Bjorn Engels heading for Aston Villa, Guion will need to use all his technical guile to improve on last season's campaign.

> Neutrals will be hoping for a real challenger to Paris Saint-Germain to emerge this season to stop Ligue 1 from becoming a procession

And how will Rennes boss Julien Stephan, at just 38, get on after leading the club to their first trophy in 48 years back in April? Rennes beat PSG in a penalty shoot-out in the Final of the French Cup and finished in 10th place in Ligue 1. Impressive, especially since Stephan only took over in December after Sabri Lamouchi was fired.

With neutrals hoping for a real challenger to PSG to emerge this season to stop Ligue 1 from becoming a procession, the smart money is on Lyon to step up to the plate.

Howard Johnson

Newcomer...Paris Saint-Germain's Pablo Sarabia (left)

Impressive... Rennes boss Julien Stephan

Marseille turn to Villas-Boas

Andre Villas-Boas is stepping back into the limelight after more than 18 months out of the game. And the 41-year-old Portuguese definitely isn't taking the easy option.

Named as the new coach of Marseille in late May, he takes over the reins at one of France's most volatile clubs after a season in which they finished outside the European qualifying spots in fifth place, five points behind Saint-Etienne in fourth and fully 30 points adrift of arch-rivals and Ligue 1 champions Paris Saint-Germain.

For a club that has such a proud history and loyal support the length and breadth of France, the fact that Marseille have not lifted a trophy since 2012 is unacceptable both to their fans and to American owner Frank McCourt. Villas-Boas will need every last drop of the considerable experience he's gained from spells in charge of top sides including Porto, Chelsea and Zenit to get Marseille back to winning ways.

Experience... Andre Villas-Boas

> That Marseille have not lifted a trophy since 2012 is unacceptable to their fans and the owner

McCourt arrived on the French south coast full of optimism back in 2016, promising to invest heavily to make OM great again. After three seasons and talk of £160million already shelled out, meaningful progress has been non-existent. While it's true Marseille did reach the Final of the Europa League under Rudi Garcia in 2018, a 3-0 loss to Atletico Madrid demonstrated just how far behind the European elite they currently are.

The club has notoriously hot-blooded fans and they were quick to express their outrage at yet another season of underachievement when they unfurled a banner at the club's Velodrome Stadium in January that read: "Humiliated in Europe, Coupe de la Ligue and Coupe de France. Executives, manager, players. You are a disgrace to Marseille."

A report in April revealed Marseille had an operating loss of £70m for the previous season, which means things off the field are almost as bad as things on it.

Garcia was given his marching orders at the end of last season and, despite talk of former Marseille and Manchester United player Gabriel Heinze getting the job, Villas-Boas is now in the hot seat – and he knows he has no time to waste in turning things around.

AVB will already have found out in the short time he's been in charge that he's going to have to operate cannily to deliver success. Given the financial state of the club, selling appears to be far more of a priority than buying. So far only defender Alvaro Gonzalez has arrived, on loan from Villarreal, while winger Lucas Ocampos has gone to Sevilla and striker Mario Balotelli left after his six-month contract expired.

Confidence...beating Saint-Etienne in a pre-season tournament

The two players Marseille could cash in on are winger Florian Thauvin and midfielder Morgan Sanson, but if they left then the team would be significantly weakened once again.

Pre-season started badly for Villas-Boas as his side lost 2-1 to lower-league English outfit Accrington Stanley, then suffered a humiliating 4-0 defeat against Scottish side Rangers.

"It will be my responsibility to find solutions to make the team better and to reach our goals this season," explained the coach afterwards. "We've not been at the level we need to reach."

Perhaps AVB is already working his magic, though, as Marseille lifted a trophy in July, in a pre-season tournament in the USA that saw them beat Bordeaux and Saint-Etienne. "It's good for our collective and individual confidence," said the coach.

Villas-Boas made the most of his time out of football by indulging his passion for rally driving. He'll really need to be on top of his game if he doesn't want his first season at Marseille to be something of a car crash.

Dortmund turn up the heat

PLAYERS TO WATCH

TYLER ADAMS
(RB Leipzig)
The 20-year-old defensive midfielder is already a USA international and combines an impressive mixture of grit, awareness, energy and ability.

JULIAN BRANDT
(Borussia Dortmund)
The *Dortmunder* effectively got themselves a half-price deal when they made a €25m release-clause swoop for the Bayer Leverkusen and Germany attacking starlet.

MAXIMILIAN EGGESTEIN
(Werder Bremen)
Talented midfield all-rounder who is at his best in a box-to-box role but can also do a job as an enforcer. His younger brother, Johannes, also plays for Bremen.

KAI HAVERTZ
(Bayer Leverkusen)
Rudi Voller, the managing director at Leverkusen, calls the 20-year-old "the best number 10 in Germany; a combination of Michael Ballack and Mesut Ozil".

LUCAS HERNANDEZ
(Bayern Munich)
After long insisting they would never pay astronomic transfer fees, Bayern made the mother of all U-turns, spending €80m on the combative Atletico Madrid and France stopper.

Return...Mats Hummels is back at Dortmund

Are the stars aligned for a Bundesliga power shift? Could Bayern Munich be in for a rude awakening after their run of seven straight league crowns?

Such questions used to invariably spark snorts of derision. Yet not so much now, with almost 66 per cent of respondents to a poll in *Kicker* magazine expecting last term's runners-up Borussia Dortmund to be on top of the pile come May.

By way of contrast, only a fifth of those surveyed were confident of Bayern making it eight in a row; a remarkably low number for a team which for the best part of a decade has crushed the life out of all domestic opponents and a squad renowned for its big-game mentality, voracious hunger and ability to roll with the punches.

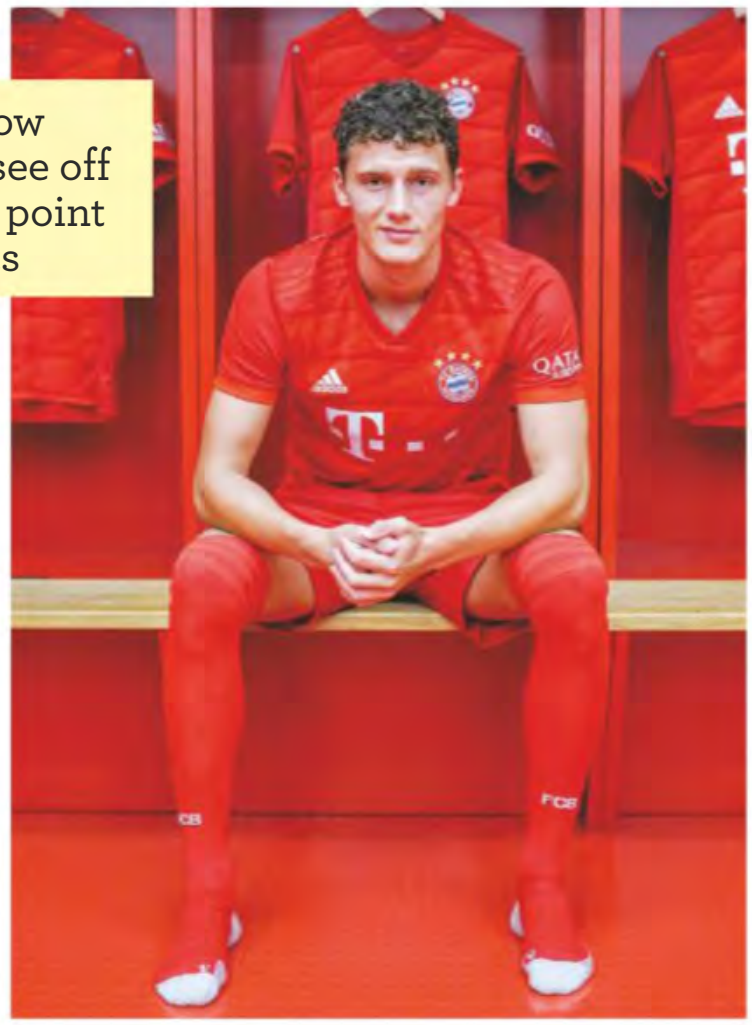
The Bayern faithful will be keen to dismiss the *Kicker* exercise as wishful thinking on the part of their domestic foes, that once the new season begins normal, omnipotent Bavarian service will automatically be resumed. But there can be no room for any complacency at the Allianz Arena: the warning signs are out there and flashing.

> Bayern will need no reminding of how deep they had to dig last season to see off the Dortmund threat, having at one point trailed the Ruhr outfit by nine points

Bayern will need no reminding of how deep they had to dig last season to see off the Dortmund threat, having at one point trailed the Ruhr outfit by nine points and only securing the title on the final weekend of the campaign. Quantitatively as well as qualitatively, there was a narrowing of the "Big Two" class gap in 2018-19 – and it appears to have been further reduced by Dortmund's raft of excellent summer recruits, notably Borussia Monchengladbach and Belgium winger Thorgan Hazard, Hoffenheim left-back Nico Schulz, Bayer Leverkusen attacking midfielder Julian Brandt and central defensive ace Mats Hummels, who returns to the Westfalenstadion after a successful three-year stint with Bayern.

Still only 30, Hummels is exactly what Dortmund needed; an authoritative back-line organiser and voice of calm and reason in a dressing room mainly made up of thrusting young guns. Strange how Hummels' career has panned out of late, deemed to be yesterday's man by *Nationalmannschaft* boss Joachim Low, then forced down the Bayern pecking order after they splashed out €80million on Atletico Madrid's French international Lucas Hernandez.

While Low and Bayern clearly think that Hummels is past his prime, others


Investment...new Bayern signing Benjamin Pavard

MAXIMILIAN MITTELSTADT
(Hertha Berlin)
Established himself in the Hertha side last term and forced his way into the national under-21 set-up. Comfortable as a left-back, left-winger or midfield ball-winner.

ALEXANDER NUBEL
(Schalke)
German under-21 keeper who Bayern apparently regard as the heir apparent to Manuel Neuer. Great reflexes and positional play, though he needs to work on his kicking.

MARCO RICHTER
(Augsburg)
Left-wing prospect who was in sensational form in the latter part of last season, excelling for both his club and the German under-21 side. Let go by Bayern Munich aged 13.

JEROME ROUSSILLON
(Wolfsburg)
Classy French left-back who is defensively sound, quick going forward and good technically. Joined the VW outfit from Montpellier last summer.

DJIBRIL SOW
(Eintracht Frankfurt)
Eintracht general-manager Fredi Bobic has picked up another bargain in paying Swiss side Young Boys just €9m for the midfielder, who is an engine-room dynamo.

Examination... Julian Nagelsmann

certainly do not. The experts at *Kicker* currently rate Hummels the best central defender in Germany and Dortmund general-manager Michael Zorc was more than happy to make the old boy his most expensive purchase of the close season at €30.5m.

While Bayern have spent big on new defenders, paying a club record fee for Hernandez and investing €35m on another French World Cup winner, stopper or right-back Benjamin Pavard, they have anything but a complete roster. The double farewell of long-serving wingers Arjen Robben and Franck Ribery has left them short of width and they also need an understudy for striker Robert Lewandowski.

Faced with an ageing squad, Bayern simply had to use the pruning shears. At the top level, football is a sentiment-free zone. However, they have undoubtedly lost a huge amount of knowhow in the shape of Robben, Ribery, Hummels and the Brazilian right-back Rafinha, who after eight seasons in Bavaria has signed for Rio club Flamengo.

Bayern coach Niko Kovac apparently wants to work with a squad of 23, including 16 established outfield players, three keepers and four up-and-coming youngsters, one of whom is the newly acquired 19-year-old ex-Hamburg striker Jann-Fiete Arp. Will that be sufficient for Bayern to thrive on multiple fronts? Lewandowski, for one, thinks not, telling a press conference during a pre-season tour of the USA: "I hope that the board will strengthen us as a team. Not only with youngsters, but with guys who are the best in the world."

As at all clubs, much will depend at Bayern on the chemistry between coach and pros. But will the resultant brew be mountain-moving synergy or torrents of bad blood? The departed Rafinha recently claimed that many of the squad were unhappy with Kovac, that the boss did not trust many of the players and was loathe to make contact with the others. If Rafinha is correct, trouble could be in store. It's no secret that Bayern players want Kovac to adopt a more co-ordinated attacking formula.

A major theme this season will be how quickly the new coaching appointments hit their stride in the top flight. For Achim Beierlorzer at promoted Cologne, survival is the name of the game, while the bar will be set considerably higher for the other six: David Wagner at Schalke, Gladbach's Marco Rose, Oliver Glasner of Wolfsburg, Hoffenheim's Alfred Schreuder, Ante Covic at Hertha Berlin and Julian Nagelsmann, who has swapped Hoffenheim for RB Leipzig.

Nagelsmann, in particular, faces a real examination of his credentials. Not only must he keep the *Roten Bullen* in the Champions League frame, he also has the huge task adding greater care in possession to RB's traditional virtues of pressing, speedy transitions and hard running. If the *Leipziger* are to challenge for trophies this season they have to be taught to play with far greater control and guile.

The place to go last term for attacking football, Eintracht Frankfurt are likely to find it much tougher now prolific strike-twins Luka Jovic and Sebastien Haller have moved on to Real Madrid and West Ham respectively. Let's hope that visionary boss Adi Hutter has a rabbit or two to pull out of the hat.

Nick Bidwell

> "I hope that the board will strengthen us as a team. Not only with youngsters, but with guys who are the best in the world"
>
> **Bayern's Robert Lewandowski**

PROMOTED TEAMS

Debut...Union Berlin

COLOGNE
Backed by one of the most fervent fan bases in the country, the second-tier champions should be carried along on a large wave of Rhineland euphoria. In new coach Achim Beierlorzer they have an exceptional motivator.

PADERBORN
The smart money says that the North Rhine-Westphalia outfit will struggle to survive. This is only their second season in the Bundesliga – after finishing last in 2015 – and on the face of it their squad is too small and inexperienced. They had hoped for a partnership arrangement with RB Leipzig, but ditched the idea after their fans protested.

UNION BERLIN
It's going to be a magical adventure this term for the people's club from the leafy south-eastern suburbs of the capital, with their first-ever campaign in the top flight and the chance to strut their old-school stuff among the corporate big boys. Truth to tell, they probably surprised themselves when seeing off Stuttgart in the promotion/relegation play-offs.

Backing...Jonas Hector (in white) and Cologne will have huge support this season

Feyenoord's American dream

Tough job...new Feyenoord coach Jaap Stam

Are Feyenoord chasing the American dream? In order to close the gap to rivals Ajax and PSV, the Rotterdam club are preparing to embrace money from an unnamed investment company based in the United States.

Feyenoord – Holland's first champions of Europe, back in 1970 – are now perennial underachievers. Although the country's most popular club, they can't catch up with their rivals and their 10 national titles are in stark contrast to Ajax's 26 and PSV's 21.

It is a situation that seems to be irreversible unless drastic measures are taken and new cash flows are found. But it's the way in which Feyenoord intend to do this that is causing friction.

General director Jan De Jong, for instance, preferred to close the gap gradually and expressed his concerns to the supervisory board. However, by doing so he signed his own death warrant and he was forced to resign as the supervisory board is the key body within the club.

> "The football world has gone crazy. We have to perform immediately with players who haven't played together once"
>
> **Ajax coach Erik Ten Hag on playing an early Champions League qualifier**

At most clubs the board plays a conservative, controlling role, but in Rotterdam the board is made up of so-called "Feyenoord Friends", successful businessmen who saved the club in the past when it was in dire straits. By doing so they also bought influence and seats on the board.

Since these men have earned their wealth by taking a few risks, it isn't a surprise to learn that they want to quicken the process of catching up and competing with Ajax and PSV.

In recent years they have expressed displeasure about De Jong's predecessor Eric Gudde, technical director Martin Van Geel and coach Giovanni Van Bronckhorst. All have departed.

The departure of De Jong should smooth the way for foreign investment and the supervisory board is keen to do business with an American investment company. But money is needed for more than just strengthening the squad.

In the background there is a stadium saga. In order to raise income, the club wants to build a new arena on the banks of the river Maas, close to their current home. "Feyenoord City", which will also contain apartments, a shopping mall and a cinema, will cost an estimated €514million. But since the money isn't there, the project has yet to start.

The Americans won't be investing for charity. In return they will have a say, for instance, in when a new director or coach has to be appointed.

Robert Eenhoorn, a former baseball player for New York Yankees, is the main candidate and currently has the same position at AZ, but he isn't able to spend millions in Alkmaar since the club works on Billy Beane's "Moneyball" principles.

Silverware...Razvan Martin (no18) and Ajax beat PSV 2-0 in the season-opening Johan Cruyff Shield

For new Feyenoord coach Jaap Stam, things will not suddenly be any different. Even when the Americans arrive he won't be able to invest heavily in the squad and the only new faces so far this season are Irish midfielder Liam Kelly, who he worked with at Reading, and Swansea City winger Luciano Narsingh.

A lack of cash is no longer a problem at Ajax as the transfers of Matthijs De Ligt (€85.5m to Juventus) and Frenkie De Jong (€75m to Barcelona) make the Champions League semi-finalists one of Europe's healthiest and richest clubs.

But with two key players leaving, can the Amsterdam club repeat last term's success?

The club held a training camp in Austria just three weeks before a vital Champions League qualifier. But due to the summer's CONCACAF Gold Cup and Africa Cup of Nations, coach Erik Ten Hag was missing no fewer than five important players. "The football world has gone crazy," he said. "We have to perform immediately with players who haven't played together once."

Ajax have already signed Mexican defender Edgar Alvarez (Club America), Dutch international Quincy Promes (Sevilla) and Romanian midfielder Razvan Marin (Standard Liege) to try to prevent an early exit.

Still, it remains a tricky situation and the Amsterdam club may pay the price for last season's success.

But while for Ajax it's the reality of their situation, Feyenoord can only dream of such problems.

Klaas-Jan Droppert

PLAYERS TO WATCH

FEDERICO CHIESA
(Fiorentina)
One of the best young Italian strikers around, the 21-year-old has long looked destined to leave Fiorentina for a Champions League club, perhaps Juventus.

KRZYSZTOF PIATEK
(Milan)
Twenty-two goals in his first season in Italy – 13 for Genoa and nine for Milan – was a sensational start for the 24-year-old and there may well be more to come.

JORDAN VERETOUT
(Roma)
Bought from Fiorentina for a €1m loan fee, with a €16m buyout attached, the 26-year-old Frenchman seems destined to have a key role in Roma's post-De Rossi midfield.

LORENZO PELLEGRINI
(Roma)
In a season when the last of the great Roma "flagbearers" has moved on, he will be expected to step up as the leader of a potentially formidable midfield.

GONZALO HIGUAIN
(Juventus)
After miserable half seasons on loan at Milan and Chelsea, he has more to prove than ever. If he were to rediscover his best form he could prove to be a good buy for someone.

Chelsea old boys... Sarri (left) and Conte

Can anyone stop Juventus?

"The Italian Serie A football championship is an annual competition, featuring 20 clubs, which runs from August to May, and which is won every year by the Turin-based club Juventus."

When it comes to the new Serie A season, it is hard not to think of Gary Lineker's splendid joke about how Germany always wins the World Cup.

As Juventus set off in pursuit of a ninth consecutive league title, one could be forgiven for observing that the Serie A title contest risks becoming just a trifle boring.

In recent years, the same scenario, with a few minor variations, has played itself out. Every year we go looking for pretenders to the throne. We suggest that maybe the time has come for Internazionale and Milan to step up to the plate and honour their own best traditions. Or we point out that Roma and/or Napoli have been knocking on the door, suggesting that maybe this year their hunger for success will make the difference.

Yet by Christmas, Juventus have the title wrapped up, Roma, Inter and Milan are struggling to hold onto a Champions League qualification, and Torino, Lazio, Sampdoria, Fiorentina et al are fast disappearing into mid-table obscurity.

Just to make matters boringly worse, the season's newly promoted sides inevitably go up and down from Serie A to Serie B and back again with all the alacrity of a fiddler's elbow.

Will it be any different this time? It's unlikely. Juventus still look far and away the strongest team in the land, and at this point you can only look to two factors in order to argue credibly that a halt might be put to Juve's gallop.

First, there is the law of averages, the realm of probability which suggests even Juventus cannot keep on winning for ever...can they? Well, nothing suggests that they cannot, actually.

Hunger...Napoli

Secondly, there is Antonio Conte, one-time coach of Juventus, Italy and Chelsea, a man who now sits on the bench at arguably the most enigmatic, under-performing Italian club of all time, namely Internazionale. And an intriguing aspect of this season is the fact that Inter, Milan, Roma and Juventus have all changed coaches.

No one who followed Italy's progress

> Every year we go looking for pretenders...yet by Christmas, Juventus have the title wrapped up, while Roma, Inter and Milan are struggling to hold onto a Champions League qualification

SERGEI MILINKOVIC-SAVIC
(Lazio)
Had a disappointing, injury-interrupted season last year but, at his best, he is a big, tough and skilled attacking midfielder who is still on the radar of many top clubs.

NICOLO BARELLA
(Internazionale)
Finally got a big move this summer when Inter paid €45m to Cagliari for a player who is clearly a fundamental part of Roberto Mancini's plans for Italy's Euro 2020 team.

EDIN DZEKO
(Roma)
The 33-year-old Bosnian striker may be nearing the end of his career but he could yet go out with a bang if a much-touted move to Inter were to come to pass.

AARON RAMSEY
(Juventus)
Juve will be expecting much from the hardworking Wales international and his ability to adapt to Italian football could be crucial to the success of a new-look side.

DIEGO GOMEZ
(Atalanta)
The embodiment of all that is good about Atalanta's game: organisation, pace, intensity and skill. He wins the ball, sets up goals and scores – he is a complete talent.

at the 2016 European Championship in France can have any doubts about Conte's capacity to create an impressive, determined unit out of a basically journeyman squad in which there were no Baggios, Del Pieros or Tottis to light up the firmament.

Can he work the same magic with an Inter squad which is certainly not to be discounted? With Samir Handanovic in goal and a back line that features Stefan De Vrij, Diego Godin – a free transfer from Atletico Madrid – and Milan Skrinniar, Inter look solid in defence, while Cagliari midfielder Nicolo Barella adds a touch of steely class.

However, not for nothing, Conte has spent much of the summer so far arguing that he needs some firepower up front to replace the want-away Mauro Icardi, who may well end up at Juventus or Napoli.

Conte faces an imposing task. Will his manic drive, his insistence on rigid discipline on and off the field finally mould Inter into a winning unit, thus succeeding where such as Gian Piero Gasperini, Roberto Mancini, Claudio Ranieri, Frank De Boer and most recently Luciano Spalletti have all failed?

Conte's apparent acceptance of the club line that "bad boys" Icardi and Radja Nainggolan do not form part of the club's future plans may in fact augur well for Inter.

At Napoli, will the affable Carlo Ancelotti – a man who has won league titles in Italy, England, France, Germany and Spain – mount a serious title challenge in this, his second season? Ancelotti is a fabulous coach who may well have used his first season at the club to recalibrate the team, in the process familiarising himself with the demanding Neapolitan environment.

Solid...Inter arrival Diego Godin

> Can Marco Giampaolo put the seven-times European champions Milan back on top? Unlike all his major rivals, he will not have the distraction of European football to upset his Serie A plans

In the process, he did, after all, finish second to Juventus, admittedly at a respectable distance of 11 points. What is clearly true, though, is that in recent seasons, especially under the coaching of Maurizio Sarri, Napoli have been the only Serie A rival to give Juventus a run for their money.

At this early stage it would seem that Ancelotti will be working with very much the same ammunition as last season, relying on Kalidou Koulibaly in defence as well as Allan in midfield and the three musketeers Jose Callejon, Dries Mertens and Lorenzo Insigne in attack.

Or can Marco Giampaolo, the new coach at Milan, put the seven-times European champions back on top?

Unlike all his major rivals, he will not have the distraction of European football to upset his Serie A plans, given that UEFA have banned Milan from this season's Europa League because the club failed to adhere to Financial Fairplay regulations.

Despite a fifth-place Serie A finish, Giampaolo's predecessor Rino Gattuso paid the price of a poor Europa League campaign which saw Milan eliminated by Greek club Olympiakos. With a less-crowded fixture list, and with the support of such as former greats and current club officials Paolo Maldini and Zvonimir Boban, perhaps Giampaolo can follow up where he left off at Sampdoria, fashioning a competitive team.

It was interesting to hear key striker Krzysztof Piatek sound enthusiastic about the new coach, calling him a "tactical maestro". But then, of course, everyone sounds enthusiastic in July...

Along with Suso, Piatek heads a useful attacking line-up, backed by such as Franck Kessie and Lucas Pacqueta in midfield, central defender Alessio Romagnoli and goalkeeper Gigio Donnarumma. However, Milan still look as if they have a lot of catching-up to do.

Europa success...Torino's Andrea Belotti

As for the rest, it is simply stretching matters beyond the bounds of reason to believe that Atalanta's midweek Champions League endeavours will not be too much for their limited squad and coach Gian Piero Gasperini will have his hands full.

As for the Romans, it is hard to expect miracles. Roma have hired a new guide in the shape of former Shakhtar Donetsk coach Paulo Fonseca, while the fact that they have held on to such as midfielders Nicolo Zaniolo and Lorenzo Pellegrini, not to mention strikers Cengiz Under and Justin Kluivert, augurs well. However, in the absence of Daniele De Rossi, this still looks like a team lacking identity and charismatic leadership.

As for Lazio, every year their coach Simone Inzaghi seems to have no trouble rebuilding a team that loses key figures in the transfer market. This summer he looks set to lose either or both midfielder Sergej Milinkovic-Savic and striker Joaquin Correa.

Inzaghi will have to hope that Lazio manage to hold on to important players

No distractions... Marco Giampaolo

PROMOTED TEAMS

Gap...Brescia

BRESCIA
The Serie B champions are back in the top flight after an eight-year gap, but coach Eugenio Corini – who took over from David Suazo on the fourth day of last season – will have his work cut out with a modest squad. Brescia's highest Serie A finish was eighth place in the 2000-2001 season.

LECCE
Former Leyton Orient manager Fabio Liverani pulled off a minor miracle in taking Lecce from Serie C to Serie A in successive seasons, finishing second in Serie B last June. Former Milan striker Gianluca Lapadula, Ukraine midfielder Yevhen Shakov and Romanian defender Romario Benzar have been drafted in to strengthen an inexperienced squad.

VERONA
Back in Serie A after just one year thanks to a last-gasp play-off win over Citadella. Former Genoa player and coach Ivan Juric faces a tough season, and while Amir Rrahmani, Miguel Veloso and Emmanuel Badu all look solid journeymen, will they be enough to ensure survival?

Recruit...Juventus' Matthijs De Ligt

such as striker Ciro Immobile, midfielder Lucas Leiva and Spanish Euro Under-21 champion Luis Alberto.

As for the rest, no small curiosity will be focused on mid-table Fiorentina and Torino. The Florence club made headlines in early June when it was confirmed that the US billionaire Rocco Commisso, who is the chairman of New York Cosmos, had bought the club from the Della Valle family for around €165million.

With Vincenzo Montella confirmed as coach, seasonal expectations have been focused on the club's striker Federico Chiesa. Will the new ownership manage to hold onto a player who has been sought after by clubs, near and far, Juventus included?

As for Torino, they have so far lived up to owner Urbano Cairo's promise of greater things to come by celebrating their return to European competition, beating the Hungarian side Debrecen 3-0 in a late July Europa League qualifying tie, played in Alessandria. With such as Andrea Belotti, Simone Zaza and Alex Berenguer up front, Cristian Ansaldi and Tomas Rincon in midfield, and the experienced Salvatore Sirigu in goal, you can count on Torino to make life difficult for everybody...including all their illustrious Turin city neighbours.

And what about Juve? New coach Maurizio Sarri will preside over a squad that looks very similar to that of last season, with Cristiano Ronaldo leading the way, supported by interesting recruits in Arsenal midfielder Aaron Ramsey and 19-year-old Ajax defender Matthijs De Ligt. After Juventus were beaten 3-2 by Spurs in an International Champions Cup friendly in Singapore, Sarri appeared to indicate that nothing much is going to change with the tactics, saying: "Ronaldo is the best player we have. My job is to organise the other 10 players, whilst he plays wherever he wants."

With Ronaldo now 34, will such a plan suffice? In reality, Sarri is probably bluffing. He is almost certainly working on adjustments to the Juventus set-up. In the meantime, he must wait and see if the club sells on striker Gonzalo Higuain, replacing him with another Argentinian in Icardi.

Whichever way that one shakes down, Juve are favourites to win a 36th title.

Paddy Agnew

Benfica academy leaves Porto and Sporting in the dust

In February 2019, recently appointed Benfica coach Bruno Lage faced his first major test in the league as he sent out a youthful starting XI to take on Lisbon rivals Sporting in front of a hostile Alvalade crowd. Fired by a Joao Felix man-of-the-match performance, the young Eagles blew away their hosts, with the imperious Ruben Dias also scoring in a 4-2 stroll.

One month later and another tough away game, effectively the title decider at Porto. Felix was on the scoresheet again, while the centre-back pairing of Dias and fellow academy product Francisco Ferreira were outstanding as Benfica claimed another richly deserved three points.

By the end of the season, Benfica were celebrating a fifth championship in six years, their academy players having made a huge contribution.

Felix, Florentino Luis, Ferreira and Gedson Fernandes all played key roles throughout the year, while Dias followed up his breakthrough season with another immense campaign. It may have taken time, but this felt like the year that president Luis Filipe Vieira's long-term promise to make the club's state-of-the-art Seixal Academy a central part of the first team and the heart of Benfica's future had finally come to fruition.

The academy opened in 2006, its

Return...Ivan Marcano is back at Porto

PLAYERS TO WATCH

SHOYA NAKAJIMA
(Porto)
Brilliant at Portimonense, the Japanese attacking midfielder is back in Portugal after a brief spell in Qatar.

JOTA
(Benfica)
The latest starlet to emerge from Benfica's Seixal Academy, the 20-year-old made his first-team debut last season.

RAUL DE TOMAS
(Benfica)
One-time Real Madrid youth-team striker expected to be a big hit after productive loan spells at Valladolid and Rayo Vallecano.

Eagles...Benfica boss Bruno Lage (pic right); while (pic left) new boys Caio (centre) and Chiquinho (no19) celebrate with academy product Jota

location in the nondescript town of Seixal boasting neither the splendour nor the charm of the Portuguese capital. But the award-winning complex is now the single most important factor fuelling Benfica's renewed dominance of Portuguese football.

Critics had accused Vieira of viewing the academy as primarily a money-making machine as a string of talented players were produced and sold without Benfica fans ever seeing them shine at the Estadio da Luz. Bernardo Silva was the personification of this policy, with the Manchester City wizard sold for €15million to Monaco after just three appearances for Benfica's first team, keen to avoid the then-coach Jorge Jesus's attempts to convert him into a left-back.

The departure of Jesus in the summer of 2015 brought a change in direction, with Vieira hand-picking coaches who were happy to use the in-house talent. First Rui Vitoria and then Bruno Lage – both of whom worked in Benfica's youth set-up before getting the top job – have been unafraid to stake their reputation on integrating the kids.

> Their award-winning academy is now the single most important factor fuelling Benfica's renewed dominance of Portuguese football

Academy graduates Renato Sanches, Goncalo Guedes, Nelson Semedo and Victor Lindelof all played major roles in winning trophies under Vitoria. And when they all moved on to represent Europe's biggest teams, they were seamlessly replaced by the latest crop of richly talented youngsters that Lage expertly forged into a formidable attacking unit in 2018-19.

"When I got the job the first thing I thought was I'm going to get this kid playing," said Lage in reference to Felix in the wake of the tremendously successful season for both of them.

Stabilisation of the club's finances has also helped. Whereas in the past Vieira was accused of selling on the cheap, Benfica are now in a position to hold out for the full value of the release clause, as exemplified by the eye-watering €126m fee Atletico Madrid paid for Felix despite the striker having played little more than half a season as a regular.

The individual ambition of each player, rather than the need to generate transfer revenue, is the biggest problem Benfica face when it comes to trying to retain their best young talent. And the conveyor belt shows no sign of slowing down. Jota is the latest gem in the first team and is touted as the next superstar.

In stark contrast, Porto and even Sporting – for so long the envy of its rivals in terms of talent production – have shown little inclination to further the development of their home-grown players. In the two matches cited earlier, of the 28 Sporting and Porto players who lined up against Benfica, only two academy players were involved, both for Sporting: captain Nani and late sub Jovane Cabral. Nani has since been sold and Cabral was inexplicably cast aside after showing real promise in the first half of last season. Porto did not have a single player who came through their youth ranks in their 18-man squad.

Judging by the summer transfer activity, neither the Lions nor the Dragons are ready to put more faith in their academies. Two of Porto's most promising youngsters are centre-backs Diogo Quieros and Diogo Leite, and when both first-choice central defenders Eder Militao and Felipe were sold, an opportunity opened up. Instead, the club re-purchased 32-year-old Ivan Marcano, who is set to play alongside veteran Pepe. It is a pattern that has been repeated all over the pitch, and mirrored at Sporting, who have deemed a string of youngsters surplus to requirements.

Benfica start 2019-20 as strong favourites to retain its crown. Should they do so, their flagging rivals may well be forced into a strategic rethink.

Tom Kundert

Spending hits new heights

Spain had hit the billion-Euro mark before the madness had even really begun. The transfer window had only been open for two weeks and La Liga spending had already gone higher than ever. By Monday morning, July 15, it was past €1,000million and rising.

And while clubs were doing their business surprisingly early – whatever happened to *manana, manana*? – it wasn't over yet. There were still six-and-a-half weeks left, and some of the biggest, most complex deals still awaited.

Everywhere, everyone was going wild. Well, almost everyone; as usual, Athletic Bilbao were a case apart.

At the very start of the summer, one La Liga coach confided that this might be the busiest summer anyone could remember. In all probability there would be more arrivals and more departures than there had ever been. He was talking about his own club, but he could just as well have been talking about them all.

Joao Felix €126million, Antoine Griezmann €120m, Eden Hazard €100m: they led the way, the stars that captured the early imagination, but there were others. Many others. Even the Premier League trailed behind.

For the first time in 11 years, Spain was outspending England – for a while, at least.

By mid-July, five of the eight most expensive signings in Europe had been made by Spanish clubs. Two of the other three – Rodri to Manchester City and Lucas Hernandez to Bayern Munich – had come from Spanish clubs, which helps to explain things. And while most of the headlines, as usual, were for Real Madrid and Barcelona, it was Atletico who are the real outliers, with their vast expenditure driven by sales.

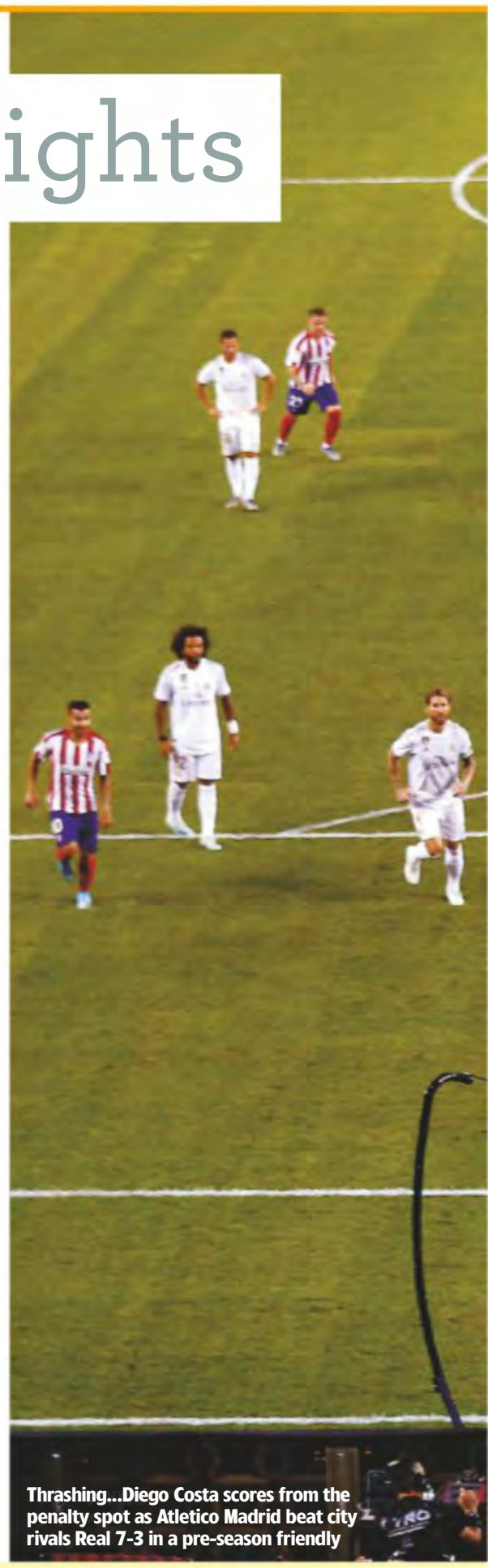
> For the first time in 11 years, Spain was outspending England – for a while, at least

With Real Madrid's season over by mid-March, the remaining months acted as a trial, giving Zinedine Zidane a chance to see which players he wanted and which he didn't want. After a year of failure, things had to change and Madrid were swift to move.

Rodrygo's €45m move from Santos was completed. Eden Hazard arrived from Chelsea, Eintracht Frankfurt's Luka Jovic cost €60m, Porto's Eder Militao €50m and Monaco's Ferland Mendy €48m. Zidane still wants a midfielder, with Paul Pogba favourite, but that means selling first.

The "to go" list is long: Theo Hernandez has joined Milan, Dani Ceballos moved on loan to Arsenal, Sergio Reguilon is at Sevilla on loan, ▸

Addition... Barcelona's Antoine Griezmann


Thrashing...Diego Costa scores from the penalty spot as Atletico Madrid beat city rivals Real 7-3 in a pre-season friendly

PLAYERS TO WATCH

KIERAN TRIPPIER
(Atletico Madrid)
The first Englishman to play for Atletico in 90 years, but how will he adapt? If ever there was a coach to improve a defender it is Diego Simeone and it could be a great move.

JACK HARPER
(Getafe)
Signed from Malaga, Getafe have made a success of taking players from the second tier, although the 23-year-old Scottish striker's opportunities may be limited to start with.

ENRICH GALLEGO
(Getafe)
Another second-tier striker, signed from Huesca, the former truck driver and bricklayer hadn't even played in the Segunda Division until the start of last season.

FRENKIE DE JONG
(Barcelona)
The debate about Barca's style is never-ending, so too the complaints about their signings and a perceived loss of identity. With the Dutchman, everyone is happy for once.

BORJA IGLESIAS
(Espanyol)
The man they call "The Panda" is the complete striker. Superb for Espanyol last season, he is expected to move on this term – and whoever gets him will have themselves a gem.

18+

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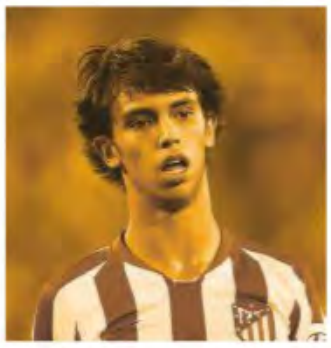
EDEN HAZARD
(Real Madrid)
Says he dreamed of joining Real since playing in his garden as a kid. Now the Bernabeu becomes the garden of Eden as Madrid get their first *galactico* for five years.

OLIVER TORRES
(Sevilla)
Has always felt like potentially a very good player in the wrong team: a slight, technical midfielder in an Atletico side with other virtues. Could flourish under Julen Lopetegui.



JOAO FELIX
(Atletico Madrid)
Set to lead a revolution, but not before they toughen him up. No one really knows how good he will be, or whether the shift he symbolises will be consummated.

MAXI GOMEZ
(Valencia)
Strong, a good finisher who chose Valencia over West Ham when leaving Cellta Vigo. There are, however, some doubts – not least how good he'll be without Iago Aspas.

NABIL FEKIR
(Real Betis)
A previous target for Liverpool, the French midfielder who was signed from Lyon is quite a coup for Betis, who are gambling that his serious injuries are behind him.

Mateo Kovacic's move to Chelsea was made permanent, Raul De Tomas went to Benfica and Luca Zidane will spend the season with Racing Santander. The futures of James Rodriguez, Isco, Keylor Navas and, in particular, Gareth Bale remain uncertain.

Zidane could hardly have been clearer about Bale: he wants the Welshman out. But the message from Bale's camp, determined that he will not take a pay cut to go anywhere and determined that he will not be forced out, is that he's not going anywhere.

Barcelona signed Frenkie De Jong for €75m from Ajax, but not his team-mate Matthijs De Ligt, who is better paid at Juventus and was reluctant to go where he was not guaranteed to be a starter. Neto and Jasper Cillissen changed places, with Valencia and Barcelona swapping goalkeepers, and the deal to sign Atletico's Griezmann was re-activated as his buyout clause came down to €120m on July 1.

Last year Barca had been all set to sign Griezmann for €100m – his buyout clause came down invitingly on July 1 then, too – only for him to decide to stay, which he announced on a glossy documentary called *The Decision*, which had been produced by a company part-owned by Gerard Pique.

He renewed his contract and remained at the Metropolitano but, 12 months later, after a disappointing season at Atletico, he decided that he did want to go after all. Amid reports that Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez were not too impressed, Griezmann said: "They might be annoyed, but I can sort that out with assists."

Atletico were annoyed too, accusing Barcelona and Griezmann of showing a lack of respect and insisting that his price was €200m, not the value of his buyout clause before July 1, and that's when the deal had been done. Yet Atletico had effectively set this deal up when they again allowed for a July 1 drop in the clause, setting a price and a target date. And they had been the ones that insisted on Griezmann publicly announcing his departure – but not who to – in May.

Atletico had been relying on the €120m, too, because they had spent it the week before.

At €126m, 19-year-old Joao Felix was presented with Griezmann's number seven shirt before the Frenchman had even left and becomes Atletico's most expensive signing of all time. They have also completed deals for Chelsea's Alvaro Morata, Marcos Llorente from Real Madrid, Mario Hermoso from Espanyol, Porto's Felipe and Kieran Trippier of Tottenham Hotspur. That is almost €250m worth of signings, propelled by the departures of Rodri, Diego Godin, Filipe Luis, Juanfran, Griezmann and Lucas Hernandez.

Galactico... Eden Hazard

> "They might be annoyed, but I can sort that out with assists"
> **Griezmann replies to reports that Messi and Suarez were not too impressed with him joining Barcelona**

New boss...Rubi joined Real Betis after leaving Espanyol

They have also pursued Real Madrid's Rodriguez and by the start of the season Atletico's first XI will look very different, and not just in terms of names as this appears to usher in a total change of identity for the team. Diego Simeone is the longest-serving coach in Spain and his new signings suggest a radical new look for the man who until now always dresses in black.

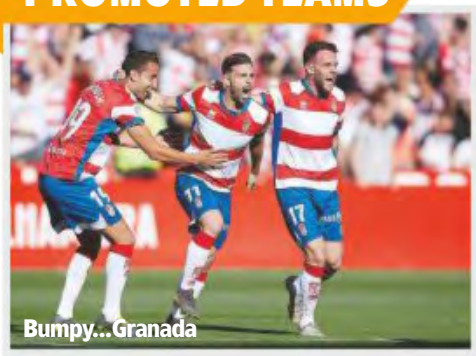
Elsewhere, by mid-July there were already 10 new players at Sevilla, seven at Alaves, Mallorca, and Osasuna, five at Real Sociedad, Celta and Getafe. Valencia may have been calmer than most, but even they have a brand new €40m striker in Maxi Gomez.

And with the transfer window not closing in Spain until September 2, there is plenty of time for even more player movement in La Liga.

And all this before anyone's even mentioned Neymar...

Sid Lowe

PROMOTED TEAMS



Bumpy...Granada

GRANADA
The Andalusians are back in the Spanish top flight after two seasons away. New signings for this season include veteran striker Roberto Soldado, but coach Diego Martinez has never taken charge of a team in La Liga so it could be bumpy ride.

MALLORCA
Wild celebrations greeted their play-off success over Deportivo La Coruna. Following recent financial troubles, just surviving in La Liga and staying up will be a triumph.

OSASUNA
The team from Pamplona are back in the top division after two seasons in the wilderness. Former Real Sociedad and Numancia boss Jagoba Arrasate guided the team to top spot in the Segunda Division last season, where they finished eight points clear of runners-up Grenada.

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Algeria claim top prize

Mahrez and his team-mates triumph over Senegal in Cairo

By Mark Gleeson

At last, Algeria finally delivered on decades of potential and reaped the rewards for boldly initiating a change in FIFA eligibility rules that allowed them to put together a squad good enough to win the Africa Cup of Nations in Egypt.

While the 1-0 victory over Senegal in the Final was far from convincing, Algeria did deserve to lift the trophy at the end of a heady, hot month amid a politically charged off-field atmosphere and more incredulous bumbling by the scandal-ridden Confederation of African Football.

Djamel Belmadi, who was only appointed Algeria coach in August last year, turned out to be an inspiring leader, while Riyad Mahrez headed a talented group on the field, with Ismael Bennacer the player of the tournament. Algeria were exciting in attack and masterful in midfield, characterised by a pressing game that defied the taxing conditions. But their defence did not get as much credit as it should have, given they conceded only two goals in seven games on their way to the title.

Upset...Madagascar players celebrate beating Congo DR in the round of 16

The squad was well balanced and had a depth few could match; the legacy of tapping into the diaspora and drawing players from the Algerian community in France to strengthen the side.

It was former Algerian Football

Out...Egypt fans watch their team exit the tournament

Joyous...fans line the streets to see Algeria take part in an open-top bus parade in the capital Algiers

Federation boss Mohamed Raouraoua who introduced the rule change that saw FIFA end draconian eligibility rules to allow players who had represented one country at junior level to later commit for another if they possessed dual nationality.

This meant Algeria, whose previous AFCON success came on home soil in 1990, could pick from an impressive list of former French junior internationals who did not step up to play for *Les Bleus*.

This list, however, did not include Mahrez, who the French system missed when he was a youngster but who was one of 14 French-born players in Algeria's 2019-winning squad.

Senegal will have to wait until a future tournament to finally bag a continental crown. They were the better side in the Final, but Sadio Mane, fatigued at the end of an elongated season, was unable to provide the spark they needed.

Nigeria finished third for a record seventh time, but their tournament will be best remembered for the loss they suffered in the group stage to final rookies Madagascar.

The 24-team format saw three teams make their debut – Burundi, Madagascar and Mauritania – while Benin, Kenya, Namibia and Tanzania all returned after a lengthy hiatus.

Fears that the expanded tournament might mean even more turgid affairs than some of the bland games witnessed in the past were not realised and upsets in the knockout stage gave the tournament a major lift, even if the victims did include the hosts.

Defeat in the last 16 was a major disaster for Egypt, who staked much political capital on their staging of the finals. They had stepped in with just six months to prepare after Cameroon was found to be ill-prepared.

It was supposed to be a chance for president Abdel Fattah el-Sisi to increase his popularity in a football-mad country, where the security restrictions on crowds at domestic games over the last seven years reflect the authorities' nervousness that the stadium terraces are a breeding ground for political dissent.

But even with Mohamed Salah digging deep to carry the massive burden of expectation despite an exhausting season with Liverpool, Egypt fell short. It meant instant dismissal for coach Javier Aguirre and the resignation of Egypt FA president Hany Abo Rida, a FIFA Council member who might yet feel the backlash of an unhappy military regime.

Crowds were dismal, as they usually are at Cup of Nations tournaments for matches not involving the hosts, and once Egypt departed the tournament was condemned to half-empty stands for most of the remaining games.

A big positive was that football returned to the cavernous Cairo International Stadium, one of the continent's iconic venues, kept closed by paranoid authorities for too long.

The summer heat made games taxing at times but the decision to move the tournament to mid-year was welcomed, most importantly by the players, who are no longer condemned to an ugly tug of war between club and country.

In between the football, CAF's discredited leadership managed to further muddy already polluted waters at their Congress on the eve of the Final, where beleaguered president Ahmad saw off challenges to his power and fired his first vice-president, all with Gianni Infantino on site.

Ahmad remains in charge despite a FIFA ethics investigation into alleged corruption, theft and sexual harassment.

FIFA has taken over the running of CAF from August 1 with Fatma Samoura parachuted into the Cairo HQ to try to fix things, but just what game Infantino is playing by allowing Ahmad to stay in his post is unclear.

> Riyad Mahrez was one of 14 French-born players in Algeria's 2019-winning squad

Unlike the politicians, casualties came quickly among the coaches. There were ugly exchanges between Paul Put and the Guinea federation after they lost in the second round, while Herve Renard's dream of a third title with three different countries was sabotaged by Morocco's propensity to self-destruct.

Other coaches out of a job after the tournament were Clarence Seedorf (Cameroon), Ricardo Mannetti (Namibia), Emmanuel Amunike (Tanzania), Sebastien Desabre (Uganda) and Sunday Chidzamba (Zimbabwe).

The next Nations Cup is scheduled for Cameroon, given a second chance to host, but it could yet be a weary road of repeated inspections and political manoeuvering before this is confirmed.

Ivory Coast (2023) and Guinea (2025) are then scheduled as next hosts but a 24-team tournament has certainly moved the goalposts.

Big guns go out

LAST 16

The decision to expand the field to 24 teams met with much scepticism, but the first knockout stage delivered a raft of upsets and thrilling contests to give the tournament a much-needed injection of excitement after a relatively sterile group phase.

And this was despite Egypt being eliminated by a suddenly inspired South Africa, who tactically outfoxed the hosts by playing a high line, adding to their speed on the counter and generally outplaying the Pharaohs with a neat passing game.

Thembinkosi Lorch's late winner was as much as Stuart Baxter's team deserved and left the neutrals wondering where this South African side had suddenly popped up from after losing two of their opening three games.

Defensively they were strong too, as full-back Sifiso Hlanti kept Mohamed Salah in check.

Egypt's exit came the day after the knockout phase began with Morocco bundled out by lowly Benin on penalties.

It was an almost comical litany of missed opportunity for Herve Renard's charges, including a spot-kick in stoppage time that should have ensured a late 2-1 victory. Instead, the mercurial Hakim Ziyech thundered his shot against a post and the game went to extra time, where Benin gallantly hung on and the won the shoot-out.

Cameroon had lost their crown before Egypt went out, Odion Ighalo getting two goals as Nigeria won 3-2. Cameroon had come from behind to score twice just before half-time, only to suffer a similar one-two punch as Ighalo equalised and then Alex Iwobi got the winner three minutes later.

Then followed the excitement of Madagascar keeping up their group-stage heroics to beat DR Congo on penalties in a dream debut.

The game ended 2-2, watched by a plane load of Malagasy fans who had travelled over on a chartered flight with their president, Andry Rajoelina. Ahead going into the last minute, Madagascar conceded an equaliser to Chancel Mbemba's powerful header and it felt as if the fairytale would end there, only for Yannick Bolasie to botch his kick in the shoot-out and Madagascar to go through 4-2 on penalties.

Ghana were the last of a heavyweight list of past winners knocked out, ending their record of six successive semi-final appearances since 2008 as Tunisia edged them on penalties.

It was a fourth draw for Alain Giresse's team, yet they looked much improved as they booked a quarter-final place. Taha Yassine Khenissi gave them a 73rd-minute lead before an unfortunate own goal from sub Rami Bedoui forced the game into extra time. Jordan Ayew had chances to then win it for Ghana, but Tunisia got through after changing their goalkeeper just before the shoot-out.

Ivory Coast and Senegal posted 1-0 victories over Mali and Uganda respectively, while Algeria looked sharp in a 3-0 win over Guinea.

Chance...Algeria (in green) go close against Ivory Coast

Despair...Mohamed Salah and Egypt lost to South Africa

QUARTER-FINALS

Senegal did not have it easy against a stubborn Benin side before Idrissa Gueye scored the winner, while Tunisia were much more emphatic with a 3-0

Threat...Senegal striker Sadio Mane attacks Tunisia

triumph over Madagascar. The wheels came off for Nicolas Dupuis' journeyman team after Ferjani Sassi's deflected shot went in, followed by goals for Youssef Msakni and substitute Naim Sliti.

In the other two quarter-finals, all between past winners, Nigeria beat South Africa and Algeria edged past Ivory Coast on penalties.

Nigeria's victory at the Cairo International Stadium was their 50th at the finals but came unwittingly as South African keeper Ronwen Williams, who was outstanding in earlier games, missed in his effort to punch away a corner and the ball struck William Troost-Ekong on the knee for an 89th-minute winner.

Nigeria were ahead at half-time but let South Africa back into the game after a VAR decision allowed Bongani Zungu's headed effort, even though he was patently offside. It was because the video showed the ball brushed a Nigerian head on the way through and therefore played Zungu onside and proved the usefulness of the system, even though coaches did seek to stoke up controversy when calls did not go their way.

Algeria won 4-3 on penalties after a 1-1 draw with the Ivorians although they should have settled the game inside 90 minutes after Sofiane Feghouli gave them the lead. Baghdad Bounedjah missed a penalty chance to extend the lead and Jonathan Kodjia needed no second invitation to equalise and force the game into extra time, where the Ivorians had the better of some close chances. It was a game where Wilfried Zaha showed his wizardry after being benched for two of the group games.

SEMI-FINALS

Yet another goalkeeping calamity proved decisive as Tunisia lost to Senegal in a match full of foibles, while Riyad Mahrez scored a stunning last-gasp winner to see Algeria past Nigeria in the other semi.

It meant the two form teams continued on to the decider although Tunisia, whose overall tournament balance was mediocre at best, kept themselves in contention right through until the end.

They were undone by a bizarre own goal in extra time as goalkeeper Moez Hassen came off his line to try to cut out a free-kick from the right flank but completely missed the ball, which then hit Dylan Bronn and flew into the net for the only goal of the game.

Both teams had a chance to settle the result in the second half but squandered penalties, while Tunisia were awarded another spot-kick after going behind, only for the decision to be rescinded after the ref consulted VAR.

Tunisia were handed a penalty in the 73rd minute as a stinging effort from Ferjani Sassi was blocked by the elbow of Senegal centre-back Kalidou Koulibaly, who picked up a caution and was harshly suspended for the Final.

Sassi hesitated as he stepped up to take the kick and hit a tame effort right into keeper Alfred Gomis' arms.

Three minutes later Ismaila Sarr was tripped in the Tunisia penalty area by Yassine Meriah, but when Henri Saivet hammered a strong shot to the corner he was denied by a left-handed save from Hassen.

> The second semi-final was marked by Mahrez's stoppage-time free-kick to earn Algeria a dramatic 2-1 victory

The second semi-final was marked by Mahrez's stoppage-time free-kick to earn Algeria a dramatic 2-1 victory to add a touch of class after an own goal and another VAR penalty decision.

Algeria went ahead in the 40th minute through an own goal by William Troost-Ekong as a cross from Mahrez was deflected and struck him in the midriff to trickle back over the Nigeria goalline.

Gambian referee Bakary Gassama initially dismissed Nigerian penalty appeals in the 70th minute when Oghenekaro Etebo's shot struck the arm of Aissa Mandi but reversed his decision on video evidence. It allowed Odion Ighalo to record a fourth goal of the tournament by sending Rais Mbohli the wrong way from the spot.

Mahrez's winner was Hollywood-style stuff, blasting in from 20 yards with the last kick of the match to send Algeria through to their first Final since 1990.

FINAL

For a tournament filled with bizarre goals it seemed almost fitting that the opening attack of the Final provided yet another.

After two minutes, Algeria striker Baghdad Bounedjah's shot hit the body of defender Salif Sane, who had been brought into the side for the suspended Kalidou Koulibaly. The ball looped up and then dipped dramatically into the goal over the bemused head of keeper Alfred Gomis, who misjudged the back spin and watched aghast as the ball landed up in the back of the net.

It was the fastest goal in a Final since 1980 when Nigeria's Segun Odegambi scored in the second minute against Algeria.

But any hopes this would be just the start of a roller-coaster game at the Cairo International Stadium evaporated quickly into a stop-start, niggly affair as Algeria tightened up the midfield and frustrated Senegal's efforts to play.

Only Youssouf Sabaly on the left looked likely to penetrate although there were efforts at goal but off target from Henri Saivet and Mbaye Niang.

Cameroonian ref Sidi Alioum pointed to the spot for a suspected handball by Adlene Guedioura on the hour mark to offer Senegal a chance, but reversed his decision after a VAR review.

Sabaly did force an acrobatic save from Algeria's Rais Mboli as Senegal continued to look stronger in the second half, but their search proved elusive and, as their legs tired, it was obvious the result was slipping away from them.

Champions... Algeria celebrate

Upsets in opening phase

GROUP A

The unadulterated adulation for Mohamed Salah made for an arena sound rarely heard anywhere in the world as the Cairo International Stadium came out of mothballs to host group games. The noise behind Egypt, playing in front of capacity crowds again with the security restrictions lifted, propelled the team on as they won all three of their matches, albeit without overwhelming conviction.

The opener against Zimbabwe was settled by Trezeguet's smart finish but there were chances for the southern Africans to cause an upset, even if they had missed training on the eve of the game in a sit-down protest over money.

Egypt also beat DR Congo and Uganda, who were surprise runners-up. A shock 2-0 win over the Congolese, followed by a fortunate draw with Zimbabwe was enough to see them advance. The Congolese managed to sneak through to the knockout stage as one of the best third-placed finishers, hammering Zimbabwe 4-0 after losing their opening two games.

GROUP B

They looked like the rookies they were in the opening half of their finals debut, but when Anicet Andrianantenaina scored just after half-time against Guinea, Madagascar went on to draw the game and set off on a captivating flight of fancy.

And they even finished top of the group after catching Nigeria cold with a 2-0 victory to finish on seven points. With a part-time coach and a parade of journeymen, there had been no great expectation, but Madagascar played with a dogged determination that won them many admirers.

Nigeria had already won twice by the time they lost to Madagascar and finished second. Coach Gernot Rohr admittedly rested several key players for the last group game but even then the quality of his team selection should not have suffered a humbling by the Malagasy.

Third-placed Guinea also went through after winning their last group game against Burundi, but they looked way off their full potential and, as it emerged later, were a polarised camp.

Sensational...Lalaina Nomenjanahary celebrates scoring for Madagascar against Nigeria

GROUP C

Just how much of a positive impact Algeria had by beating Senegal 1-0 in the group phase in a curtain-raiser can never be fully known. But it provided an important boost of confidence and a chance for coach Djamel Belmadi to field a second-string side for the last group game, thereby resting players, giving others a chance and keeping a bonhomie in the camp that was to prove one of the key factors to their eventual success.

> How much of a positive impact Algeria had beating Senegal 1-0 in the group can never be fully known

Algeria and Senegal were always expected to dominate Kenya and Tanzania, both making long-awaited returns to the finals, and so it proved as the gulf in class was all too evident.

It meant the main focus was on the Cairo clash in round two where Youcef Belaili's effort early in the second half settled it in Algeria's favour. Senegal had Sadio Mane back for the game after he missed their opening win over Tanzania through suspension but his contribution was to miss the first of two penalties at the tournament.

Derby...Kenya (in red) versus Tanzania

Kenya and Tanzania did provide a rip-roaring sideshow in their derby, with the Harambee Stars winning 3-2.

GROUP D

Morocco finished top of the standings with a 100 per cent record and without

Opener...Trezeguet scores for Egypt against Zimbabwe

conceding, but they were seconds from an embarrassing start against minnows Namibia. The game was goalless deep into stoppage time when Namibia substitute Itamunua Keimune botched an attempted clearance and headed the ball into his own net. It was an awful ending to a plucky performance from the southern African underdogs, who eventually exited without any points.

Morocco then edged Ivory Coast in their second game and scored a last-minute winner to beat South Africa for a third successive 1-0 success.

The Ivorians also beat South Africa with a second-half goal from Jonathan Kodjia but deserved the win and after hammering Namibia 4-1 finished second.

South Africa scrapped through with a paltry three points after edging Namibia. Ordinarily, this would be a mismatch in terms of resources, but Namibia held out for an hour before Bongani Zungu spared South African blushes with a headed goal from a corner. *Bafana Bafana* would then go on to advance as the last of the four best third-place finishers.

Plucky...Namibia's Peter Shalulile takes on Morocco

GROUP E

Mali were the only team to post victories in an uninspiring group, starting with a 4-1 thumping of rookies Mauritania and finishing the group by beating Angola thanks to a stunning long-range effort from Amadou Haidara.

Tunisia limped through in second place after three successive draws and looked decidedly uninspiring as coach Alain Giresse repeatedly shuffled his selection in a vain effort to inject some spark into the line-up. Although he was only appointed to the job some six months before the tournament, it was all too apparent he had little idea of what his best team was and Tunisia were therefore nowhere near their full potential, even though they would go on to eventually finish fourth overall.

Angola were always going to be a potential spoiler and they started in just such a way by holding Tunisia in their first game as they came from a goal behind to draw 1-1.

But then Angola shot themselves in the foot by drawing a match they really needed to win against Mauritania. They could still have advanced if they had drawn their third match with Mali, but a 1-0 loss meant they went home instead.

Mauritania did not look overawed on their debut but their deficiency in terms of playing personnel was obvious from the opening game.

Denied...Mali keeper Djigui Diarra beats Gelson of Angola

GROUP F

Holders Cameroon were not among the pre-tournament favourites despite their victory in Gabon two years ago, with new coach Clarence Seedorf continually questioned about his ever-changing selection, formation and tactics. But progress in the tournament was almost assured after beating Guinea-Bissau 2-0 in their opening game, even though the two goalless draws that followed amplified concerns.

Ghana arrived at the tournament hoping for a first trophy since 1982 while stretching to seven the number of successive tournaments where they have reached the last four. But after being held by Benin in their opening game they too were hit with an avalanche of doubts about their potential to challenge.

Benin, in fact, stole the limelight as they forced three draws to go through to the second round in what was their fourth finals appearance. Previously they had lost eight of nine matches, drawing the other, but although they remained winless they advanced as one of the best third-placed finishers in a triumph for AFCON veteran Michel Dussuyer.

The French coach had been fired by Ivory Coast after a poor 2017 tournament so this was some vindication for his reputation on the continent.

JULY 10-31, 2019

Global diary

A comprehensive record of recent events around the world

Wednesday July 10

AFCON: With the Video Assistant Referee system introduced from the quarter-finals, Sadio Mane has two goals disallowed for offside after VAR checks but Senegal still beat Benin, thanks to a goal from Idrissa Gueye. William Troost-Ekong gets a last-minute winner as Nigeria win 2-1 against South Africa.

Thursday July 11

AFCON: Algeria blow a 1-0 lead and miss a penalty in normal time before scraping past Ivory Coast in a shoot-out. They are joined in the semi-finals by Tunisia, who beat Madagascar 3-0.
ENGLAND: Arsenal's Laurent Koscielny, who will be out of contract next summer, refuses to travel on the club's pre-season tour of the USA.
ITALY: Milan give Atalanta permission to play their home Champions League games at San Siro as their own stadium is being renovated to meet UEFA standards.
SPAIN: Barcelona sign 16-year-old Louie Barry from West Bromwich Albion and the striker will play for their under-19 Juvenil A side.
UKRAINE: Next season's Ukrainian Premier League will return to 14 teams before a further increase to 16 the following year.

Friday July 12

ALBANIA: The Court of Arbitration for Sport dismisses Skenderbeu's appeal against a 10-year exclusion from European competitions – the longest ban ever imposed on a club by UEFA for match-fixing.
FRANCE: Lyon complete the signing of defender Joachim Andersen from Sampdoria for a fee rising to a club record €30m.
SPAIN: Barcelona meet Antoine Griezmann's €120m buyout clause and sign the 28-year-old French striker from Atletico Madrid.

Saturday July 13

ITALY: Bologna's Sinisa Mihajlovic reveals he is to receive treatment for leukaemia but will remain as coach during the process.

Sunday July 14

AFCON: Both sides have penalties saved in normal time before Senegal beat Tunisia in extra-time with an own goal from Dylan Bronn. In the second semi-final, Riyad Mahrez scores with a free-kick in the last minute of extra-time as Algeria beat Nigeria 2-1.
EURO U19s: Spain kick off the finals with a 4-1 win over hosts Armenia.
IRAQ: Despite losing 1-0 away at Al Minaa, Al Shorta claimed the Iraqi Premier League title as closest challengers Air Force Club also lose.
KYRGYZ REPUBLIC: Dordoi beat Alay Osh 2-1 to win the Super Cup.
SPAIN: Valencia sign Celta Vigo striker Maxi Gomez for a reported club record fee of €50m.

Monday July 15

SOUTH AFRICA: Former Kaizer Chiefs, Orlando Pirates and Mamelodi Sundowns striker Marc Batchelor is shot dead near his home in Johannesburg by two men on a motorbike.

Tuesday July 16

CAMEROON: Clarence Seedorf and his assistant, Patrick Kluivert, are sacked after Cameroon failed to defend their AFCON title.
GUINEA: Belgian coach Paul Put is dismissed following elimination from the Africa Cup of Nations amid what the country's football federation calls an "atmosphere of mistrust".
UEFA CHAMP LEAGUE: On their home European debut, Saburtalo lose 3-1 to Sheriff but win 4-3 on aggregate. Former European champions Red Star Belgrade beat Suduva and also advance to the second qualifying round.

Wednesday July 17

AFCON: Odion Ighalo's fifth goal of the tournament gives Nigeria third place with a 1-0 win over Tunisia.
ENGLAND: Two days after resigning at Sheffield Wednesday, Steve Bruce takes over as manager of Newcastle United. West Ham United break their transfer record for the third time in little over a year with the £45m signing of Sebastien Haller from Eintracht Frankfurt.
THAILAND: Ex-Japan coach Akira Nishino takes charge of Thailand's

Own goal...the ball hits Tunisia's Dylan Bronn (second from right) and sends Senegal into the AFCON Final

Through...Red Star of Belgrade

senior and under-23 teams.
WORLD CUP: The draw for the next stage of the Asian qualifiers throws up some politically sensitive games, with North Korea and South Korea drawn in the same group, as are Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

Thursday July 18

EUROPA LEAGUE: Connah's Quay Nomads win 2-0 at Kilmarnock to overturn a 2-1 deficit from the first leg. Hajduk Split lose 3-1 at home to Maltese side Gzira United and go out on away goals after a 3-3 draw on aggregate.
ITALY: Juventus sign centre-back Matthijs De Ligt from Ajax for an initial fee of €75m.

Friday July 19

AFCON: Twenty-nine years after their first title, Algeria are African champions again, beating Senegal 1-0 in the Final with a goal from Baghdad Bounedjah.
NORTH KOREA: Pak-hyon Il gets ➤

Upset...Connah's Quay Nomads (in red)

Indian Ocean Island Games

STEVE MENARY

Decider...Mauritius (in red) take on Madagascar

Photo credit: Jonathan Chaurenootoo

Reunion take gold

Keepers on top in Final shoot-out

Hosts Mauritius were denied their first Indian Ocean Island Games title since 2003 as holders Reunion won an incredible shoot-out that saw the two keepers save eight out of the 10 penalties.

Jean Michel Fontaine opened the scoring after 11 minutes for Reunion and though Adrien Francois levelled, Mauritius could not find a winner. Extra-time produced no further goals before Reunion's Mathieu Pelops saved five successive spot-kicks.

Mauritius' Christopher Caserne also stopped three but could not take the game into sudden death as Bertrand Bador slotted home to take gold.

The win was a fifth football title for Reunion at the multi-sport Games which also featured Comoros, Madagascar, Maldives, Mayotte and Seychelles.

The Games offer a rare international outing for two of the islands, as Reunion is only an associate member of CAF and not in FIFA, while Mayotte is unrecognised by both.

Mayotte had not played since 2015 but began the tournament with a 2-0 win in Group B over Comoros, while Reunion brushed aside the Maldives 4-0. The two sides then met and Reunion edged home 1-0 with a goal from Assoumani Akbar. Comoros stayed in the running for a semi-final place by beating Maldives 3-0 and then surprised Reunion 1-0, only to miss out on goal difference. Mayotte took the other semi-final spot with a 3-1 win over the Maldives.

More had been expected of the Maldives, who in 2018 beat India 2-1 to win the 2018 SAFF Cup, but coach Petar Segret was forced to bring a weakened team. The domestic league only restarted in June after a six-month delay and Segret, who brought a squad of rusty under-23 players, said: "We feel sore we cannot get better results but accept the quality of the other teams like Reunion is better than ours."

In Group A, Mauritius had started with a nervous 1-1 draw against Seychelles. Ashley Nazira opening the scoring for the hosts with a header but Colin Bibi levelled. Bibi was one of six players from St Louis Suns in a squad of 20 brought by 2011 winners Seychelles whose coach Gavin Jeanne also relied mainly on local players.

The draw put extra pressure on Mauritius coach Akbar Patel, whose side were watched by acting president Paramasivum Pillay Vyapoory for the Group A decider against Madagascar.

Despite bringing a development side, the surprise 2019 Africa Cup of Nations quarter-finalists opened the scoring, but Nazira equalised in the 59th minute to secure a semi-final with Mayotte.

Patel's side struggled to break down the 2015 runners-up and the game finished 0-0 after 90 minutes. With the game heading for penalties, Kevin Perticots scored from the spot with five minutes left to take Mauritius into the Final.

In the other semi-final, Reunion savaged the Seychelles 4-0.

After bad weather in Curepipe, the Final was shifted to Flacq, where the 1,750-capacity ground was increased to 5,000 by using temporary seating – which included swathes of plastic chairs on the athletics track around the pitch.

The chairs were soon abandoned and the crowd swarmed around the touchlines but Jean-Pierre Bade's players held their nerve. With few other outlets, Reunion will be focused on retaining their crown again in the Maldives in 2023. WS

Southeast Asia

JOHN DUERDEN

Bidding war breaks out

China's World Cup 2034 plans face challenge from ASEAN countries

After Qatar 2022, it is assumed the next Asian World Cup will be in China, with India an outside bet. Yet there is a region that is home to over 600 million people, connects those two massive countries and loves football more than either.

In the space of a few days in late June, the possibility emerged of two bids from Southeast Asia. Both are still long shots, but if all goes to plan then the Final of a tropical 2034 World Cup could be beaming around the planet from Jakarta, Bangkok, Singapore, Hanoi or Kuala Lumpur.

There has long been talk among some of the 10 ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) members of possible bids before, but these have been between two or three nations before one usually drops out and it all falls apart.

But this time things look a little different; for the first time the idea has been talked about at the very top. It started with the prime minister of Thailand, Prayut Chan-o-cha.

"The leaders have the support of the region to host the FIFA World Cup in 2034, if possible," says Prayut. "I would like to invite the people of ASEAN to support the soccer associations in order to realise this dream." And those comments have been echoed by Malaysia's prime minister and backed up by leading officials in Vietnam.

There were initial claims that all 10 ASEAN nations could serve as co-hosts, which would mean possible trips for players and fans to Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

However, that number is unlikely according to Somyot Poompanmoung, the president of the Football Association of Thailand, who believes that four or five co-hosts may be the best way forward.

Somyot says: "It depends on the government and the leaders. But we know that in 2034 or 2038 it will be the turn of Asia.

"We have had the World Cup in East Asia already, back in 2002. It will come to West Asia in 2022, so it could be somewhere between the next time.

"If we make an ASEAN agreement then we should have a good chance. Whatever happens, we would like to make noise and activity in ASEAN football.

"It is hard for one country to host the World Cup now there are 48 teams. You probably need more than 12 stadiums, maybe 16. But we have to show that we can make money for FIFA. The United States, Canada and Mexico can make more money than Morocco. We are a region of more than 600 million. Of course, we know that China is a big country, with a big economy, but we can give football in ASEAN a big boost."

As well as tourism, the region has some experience of co-hosting tournaments, with Kuala Lumpur, Hanoi, Jakarta and Bangkok staging one group each at the 2007 Asian Cup. It worked well and the Asian Football Confederation was fine with the idea of allowing each host to get an automatic place in the tournament at a time when they were far from regular participants.

Even with the expansion to 48 teams, FIFA – not to mention the rest of Asia – would not allow four or five ASEAN teams direct entry to the World Cup when it is possible that none would qualify automatically. The idea of having a regional all-star team with players from

"It is hard for one country to host the World Cup now there are 48 teams. You probably need more than 12 stadiums, maybe 16"

Somyot Poompanmoung, president of the Football Association of Thailand

Ready...Singapore's National Stadium already meets FIFA requirements

Support...Thai fans get behind their team

each country has been floated but is unlikely.

While Malaysia and Indonesia have the requisite 80,000-capacity stadiums, all would need lots of work, so perhaps only Singapore's National Stadium would meets FIFA's requirements as it stands. Even in Thailand and Vietnam, countries accustomed to hosting plenty of tourists, there would have to be investment in infrastructure.

Yet Southeast Asia's effort is in danger of losing its biggest member as Indonesia is discussing a joint bid with Australia. Both tried for the 2022 event, even though they would prefer to forget it ever happened. While Indonesia fizzled out way before the decision was made, Australia went all the way but received just a single vote.

For all that, a joint bid is perhaps not a bad idea. With India and China, not to mention others such as a joint Korea bid, all expressing interest, Australia will not get the tournament alone. Talk of a New Zealand collaboration won't cut it, especially as they belong to different confederations.

Indonesia and Australia would help to counter each other's weaknesses. While Indonesia has perhaps more passion than any other footballing nation in Asia, Australia provides tournament knowhow and top-class infrastructure. The biggest drawback would be the distance between the two.

However, as Thai football chief Somyot says: "There is still a long time to go until 2034. Many things can happen." WS

➤ the only goal as North Korea beat Tajikistan in the Final of the Intercontinental Cup in India.

Saturday July 20

PACIFIC GAMES: New Zealand's under-23 side beat New Caledonia 2-1 in the Final of the men's football tournament.
MEXICO: America beat Monterrey 4-2 on the opening weekend of the new Liga MX Apertura campaign.

Sunday July 21

CHINA: Beijing Guoan lose 1-0 at Jiangsu Suning and relinquish top spot for the first time since April 5, Guangzhou Evergrande taking over pole position with a 5-0 victory away to city rivals Guangzhou R&F the previous day.
ENGLAND: Sheffield United break their transfer record for the third time this summer as they sign French striker Lys Mousset from Bournemouth for £10m.
MOROCCO: Herve Renard stands down as Morocco coach after a disappointing Africa Cup of Nations.
ROMANIA: Eugen Neagoe, who took charge of Dinamo Bucharest in June, is rushed to hospital after collapsing during his side's 2-0 defeat by Universitatea Craiova.

Monday July 22

MOZAMBIQUE: Former Liverpool and Everton defender Abel Xavier's contract as coach of Mozambique is not renewed and he is replaced as national coach by Victor Matine.

Tuesday July 23

BURKINA FASO: Kamou Malo, who led USFA to third place in the Burkina Faso Premier League last season, is appointed national coach.
ENGLAND: Newcastle United sign striker Joelinton from Hoffenheim for a club record £40m.
EUROPA LEAGUE: Lithuanian side Suduva record their biggest-ever victory in Europe, beating Tre Penne 5-0 in San Marino.
UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE: PSV score two late goals to win 3-2 at home to Basle.

Wednesday July 24

EGYPT: Al Ahly secure the Egyptian Premier League title with a 3-1 win away to Arab Contractors.

Thursday July 25

ARGENTINA: Ex-Italy midfielder Daniele De Rossi joins Boca Juniors after being released by Roma.
ENGLAND: Arsenal team-mates Sead Kolasinac and Mesut Ozil escape unhurt after being confronted by two men wielding knives in north London in an apparent car-jacking attempt.
EUROPA LEAGUE: Gent and Viitorul score nine goals in the first 61 minutes as the Belgian side win 6-3 in the first leg of their second qualifying round tie.
SPAIN: Former Barcelona striker Patrick Kluivert rejoins the club as academy director after being fired as Cameroon assistant coach earlier in the month.

Friday July 26

CHINA: Ex-England international defender Terry Butcher joins the coaching staff of Guangzhou R&F.
EGYPT: The body of a man – who is reported to have been trying to steal electrical cables – is found at the home of Arsenal midfielder Mohamed Elneny in the city of Mahalla al Kubra.
SPAIN: Diego Costa scores four times and is then sent off as Atletico Madrid thrash Real Madrid 7-3 in New Jersey in a friendly.
USA: MLS expansion club Inter Miami sign their first players – and then loan back – 19-year-old Argentinians Matias Pellegrini and Julian Carranza, from Estudiantes and Banfield respectively.
VIETNAM: Ho Chi Minh City remain a point clear at the top of the table following a 2-2 draw with second-place Hanoi.

Saturday July 27

EURO U19s: Spain beat holders Portugal 2-0 to win the title for an eighth time.
IRAQ: Safaa Hadi scores the only goal of the game as Al Zawraa beat Al Kahrabaa to win the Iraq FA Cup for a 16th time.
JAPAN: Belgium defender Thomas Vermaelen joins Vissel Kobe following his release by Barcelona.
MALAYSIA: Kedah beat Perak 1-0 with a goal from substitute Fadzrul Danel in extra time to win the Malaysian FA Cup.

Sunday July 28

BELGIUM: Vincent Kompany makes a losing start as player-manager of Anderlecht, going down 2-1 at home to Oostende.
GERMANY: Marco Reus of Borussia Dortmund is voted Footballer of the Year for 2019.
SPAIN: Real Madrid announce Gareth Bale's proposed move to Chinese club Jiangsu Suning is called off.

Monday July 29

CHINA: Italian coach Roberto ➤

➤ Donadoni agrees to take charge of CSL side Shenzhen.
SAUDI ARABIA: Herve Renard, who led Morocco in the 2018 World Cup finals, is appointed coach of Saudi Arabia for the 2022 qualifiers.

Tuesday July 30

ARGENTINA: Hired as interim coach last August, Lionel Scaloni signs a permanent deal to lead Argentina through qualifying for the 2022 World Cup.
BRAZIL: Reports in his homeland suggest former Brazil forward Ronaldinho has had 57 properties seized and his Brazilian and Spanish passports confiscated over unpaid taxes and fines.
EUROPA LEAGUE: Shkendija of North Macedonia have three players sent off in the closing stages as they draw 1-1 away to Dudelange of Luxembourg and are knocked out of the tournament.
LIBERTADORES CUP: Defending champions River Plate beat Cruzeiro on penalties after two goalless games, while Palmeiras beat Godoy Cruz 4-0 to win 6-2 on aggregate.
UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE: Basle beat PSV 2-1 to draw 4-4 on aggregate and progress to the next round on away goals.
WAFF CHAMPIONSHIP: Hosts Iraq kick off the west Asian tournament with a 1-0 victory over Lebanon.

Wednesday July 31

CAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE: The Court of Arbitration for Sport says that CAF was wrong to order a replay of the Wydad-Esperance Champions League Final and the decision should have been referred to the confederation's proper disciplinary structures.
CHINA: Bruno Genesio, who left Lyon at the end of last season, will coach Beijing Guoan until the end of the CSL campaign.
GREECE: Former Holland international midfielder John Van't Schip is appointed coach of Greece's national team after the dismissal of Angelos Anastasiadis.
PANAMA: A World Cup winner as a player with Argentina in 1978, Americo Gallego is appointed Panama coach.
UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE: AIK overcome a first-leg deficit to force extra time, but Alexandru Cretu scores three minutes from the end to send Maribor though on away goals. They now face Rosenborg, who overturn a loss in Belarus to beat BATE 3-2 on aggregate. WS

Euro Under-19s

GAVIN HAMILTON

Spain strike again

Yet more silverware for Santi's young stars

Barely a month after triumphing in the Euro Under-21 Championship, Spain added the continental under-19 title to their growing collection of honours, beating Portugal 2-0 in the Final in Yerevan's Republican stadium.

The victory was Spain's eighth success at this level and continuity has been key to their triumphs. The latest win was overseen by coach Santi, the former Atletico Madrid defender, who was in charge of the side that beat England on penalties in the Under-17 Final in Croatia two years ago. Many of the players from that squad, including Borussia Dortmund's Sergio Gomez, Barcelona pair Abel Ruiz and Juan Miranda, and two-goal Final hero Ferran Torres of Valencia, formed the backbone of the team that triumphed in Armenia.

Torres went into the tournament on the back of an excellent debut season in La Liga. His goals in the

Triumph...Spain celebrate

> "If you speak well of us, it's for a reason...I think we are a generation that has made its mark"
>
> Spain's Ferran Torres

Final – the first a volley after Portugal failed to clear Bryan Gil's cross, the second a low shot after another defensive mix-up – were expertly taken. But the scoreline was harsh on a Portugal side who had played the best football over the course of the tournament

"If you speak well of us, it's for a reason," said Torres. "We've demonstrated it on the pitch by winning the Under-17 and Under-19 European Championships, as well as being runners-up at the Under-17 World Cup, which is not something to sniff at. I think we are a generation that has made its mark.

"We all know what kind of tournament this is; it is a showcase at both an individual and group level, and it is a good opportunity to show clubs you are a top player."

Reigning champions Portugal were taking part in their third successive Euro Under-19 Final but had to be content with the silver medal, despite finishing as the tournament's highest-scoring team. Their 12 goals in five games included four in a semi-final thrashing of Republic of Ireland and three against Italy – who they beat in the Final in 2018 – in their opening group game.

The Italians beat hosts Armenia in their second group game but needed to beat Spain in their last match to make the semis. Ahead at half-time thanks to Davide Merola's free-kick, Lorenzo Gavioli's own goal and a Ruiz penalty turned the contest in Spain's favour.

"The main thing was we stayed positive, passed the ball well, found spaces, showed the essence of what we're about," said Santi after the Italy game. "We're a team with a lot of soul with a lot of heart, and, apart from the tactics, you need that."

France, having reached the semi-finals after winning all three group games, met their match in Spain, but neither side could find the killer touch and the match ended goalless after 120 minutes.

After Monaco's Wilson Isador saw his penalty saved and Maxence Caqueret of Lyon hit the woodwork, Spain's Torres stepped up to convert the winning spot-kick.

In the other semi-final Portugal cruised past Republic of Ireland, with the tournament's top scorer Goncalo Ramos of Benfica recording a hat-trick.

The Irish exceeded all expectations at the finals by reaching the last four but they were without striker Jonathan Afolabi, who collected a second yellow card in their final group game against Czech Republic having scored a great solo goal earlier in the match.

Afolabi, raised in Dublin by Nigerian parents, had gone into the tournament without a club after leaving Southampton at the end of last season having failed to agree a new contract.

The tournament was the first UEFA competition to be staged in Armenia. WS

Goals... Ferran Torres

TEAM OF THE TOURNAMENT

GOALKEEPER
Arnau Tenas
(Spain & Barcelona)

DEFENDERS
Victor Gomez
(Spain & Espanyol)
Eric Garcia (Spain & Manchester City)
Oumar Solet
(France & Lyon)
Juan Miranda
(Spain & Barcelona)

MIDFIELDERS
Maxence Caqueret
(France & Lyon)
Antonio Blanco
(Spain & Real Madrid)
Fabio Vieira
(Portugal & Porto)

FORWARDS
Ferran Torres
(Spain & Valencia)
Jonathan Afolabi
(Republic of Ireland & unattached)
Felix Correia
(Portugal & Sporting)

Finish...Jonathan Afolabi of Republic of Ireland scores against Czech Republic

PREMIER LEAGUE FIXTURES 2019-20

AUGUST 9
Liverpool v Norwich City

AUGUST 10
Bournemouth v Sheffield United
Burnley v Southampton
Crystal Palace v Everton
Tottenham Hotspur v Aston Villa
Watford v Brighton
West Ham United v Manchester City

AUGUST 11
Leicester City v Wolves
Manchester United v Chelsea
Newcastle United v Arsenal

AUGUST 17
Arsenal v Burnley
Aston Villa v Bournemouth
Brighton v West Ham United
Everton v Watford
Manchester City v Tottenham Hotspur
Norwich City v Newcastle United
Southampton v Liverpool

AUGUST 18
Chelsea v Leicester City
Sheffield United v Crystal Palace

AUGUST 19
Wolves v Manchester United

AUGUST 23
Aston Villa v Everton

AUGUST 24
Brighton v Southampton
Liverpool v Arsenal
Manchester United v Crystal Palace
Norwich City v Chelsea
Sheffield United v Leicester City
Watford v West Ham United
Wolves v Burnley

AUGUST 25
Bournemouth v Manchester City
Tottenham Hotspur v Newcastle United

AUGUST 31
Burnley v Liverpool
Chelsea v Sheffield United
Crystal Palace v Aston Villa
Leicester City v Bournemouth
Manchester City v Brighton
Newcastle United v Watford
Southampton v Manchester United
West Ham United v Norwich City

SEPTEMBER 1
Arsenal v Tottenham Hotspur
Everton v Wolves

SEPTEMBER 14
Brighton v Burnley
Liverpool v Newcastle United
Manchester United v Leicester City
Norwich City v Manchester City
Sheffield United v Southampton
Tottenham Hotspur v Crystal Palace
Wolves v Chelsea

SEPTEMBER 15
Bournemouth v Everton
Watford v Arsenal

SEPTEMBER 16
Aston Villa v West Ham United

SEPTEMBER 20
Southampton v Bournemouth

SEPTEMBER 21
Burnley v Norwich City
Crystal Palace v Wolves
Everton v Sheffield United
Leicester City v Tottenham Hotspur
Manchester City v Watford
Newcastle United v Brighton

SEPTEMBER 22
Arsenal v Aston Villa
Chelsea v Liverpool
West Ham United v Manchester United

SEPTEMBER 28
Aston Villa v Burnley
Bournemouth v West Ham United
Chelsea v Brighton
Crystal Palace v Norwich City
Leicester City v Newcastle United
Sheffield United v Liverpool
Tottenham Hotspur v Southampton
Wolves v Watford

SEPTEMBER 29
Everton v Manchester City

SEPTEMBER 30
Manchester United v Arsenal

OCTOBER 5
Brighton v Tottenham Hotspur
Burnley v Everton
Liverpool v Leicester City
Manchester City v Wolves
Norwich City v Aston Villa
Southampton v Chelsea
Watford v Sheffield United
West Ham United v Crystal Palace

OCTOBER 6
Arsenal v Bournemouth
Newcastle United v Manchester United

OCTOBER 19
Aston Villa v Brighton
Bournemouth v Norwich City
Chelsea v Newcastle United
Crystal Palace v Manchester City
Everton v West Ham United
Leicester City v Burnley
Manchester United v Liverpool
Sheffield United v Arsenal
Tottenham Hotspur v Watford
Wolves v Southampton

OCTOBER 26
Arsenal v Crystal Palace
Brighton v Everton
Burnley v Chelsea
Liverpool v Tottenham Hotspur

Oct 26...Newcastle United v Wolves

Manchester City v Aston Villa
Newcastle United v Wolves
Norwich City v Manchester United
Southampton v Leicester City
Watford v Bournemouth
West Ham United v Sheffield United

NOVEMBER 2
Arsenal v Wolves
Aston Villa v Liverpool
Bournemouth v Manchester United
Brighton v Norwich City
Crystal Palace v Leicester City
Everton v Tottenham Hotspur
Manchester City v Southampton
Sheffield United v Burnley
Watford v Chelsea
West Ham United v Newcastle United

NOVEMBER 9
Burnley v West Ham United
Chelsea v Crystal Palace
Liverpool v Manchester City
Newcastle United v Bournemouth
Norwich City v Watford
Southampton v Everton
Tottenham Hotspur v Sheffield United
Wolves v Aston Villa

NOVEMBER 10
Leicester City v Arsenal
Manchester United v Brighton

NOVEMBER 23
Arsenal v Southampton
Aston Villa v Newcastle United
Bournemouth v Wolves
Brighton v Leicester City
Crystal Palace v Liverpool
Everton v Norwich City
Manchester City v Chelsea
Sheffield United v Manchester United
Watford v Burnley
West Ham United v Tottenham Hotspur

NOVEMBER 30
Burnley v Crystal Palace
Chelsea v West Ham United
Leicester City v Everton
Liverpool v Brighton
Newcastle United v Manchester City
Southampton v Watford
Tottenham Hotspur v Bournemouth
Wolves v Sheffield United

DECEMBER 1
Manchester United v Aston Villa
Norwich City v Arsenal

DECEMBER 3
Arsenal v Brighton
Burnley v Manchester City
Leicester City v Watford
Manchester United v Tottenham Hotspur
Sheffield United v Newcastle United
Wolves v West Ham United

DECEMBER 4
Chelsea v Aston Villa
Crystal Palace v Bournemouth
Liverpool v Everton
Southampton v Norwich City

DECEMBER 7
Aston Villa v Leicester City
Bournemouth v Liverpool
Brighton v Wolves
Everton v Chelsea
Manchester City v Manchester United
Newcastle United v Southampton
Norwich City v Sheffield United
Tottenham Hotspur v Burnley
Watford v Crystal Palace
West Ham United v Arsenal

DECEMBER 14
Arsenal v Manchester City
Burnley v Newcastle United
Chelsea v Bournemouth
Crystal Palace v Brighton
Leicester City v Norwich City
Liverpool v Watford
Manchester United v Everton
Sheffield United v Aston Villa
Southampton v West Ham United
Wolves v Tottenham Hotspur

DECEMBER 21
Aston Villa v Southampton
Bournemouth v Burnley
Brighton v Sheffield United
Everton v Arsenal
Manchester City v Leicester City
Newcastle United v Crystal Palace

Feb 8... Manchester City v West Ham United

Norwich City v Wolves
Tottenham Hotspur v Chelsea
Watford v Manchester United
West Ham United v Liverpool

DECEMBER 26

Aston Villa v Norwich City
Bournemouth v Arsenal
Chelsea v Southampton
Crystal Palace v West Ham United
Everton v Burnley
Leicester City v Liverpool
Manchester United v Newcastle United
Sheffield United v Watford
Tottenham Hotspur v Brighton
Wolves v Manchester City

DECEMBER 28

Arsenal v Chelsea
Brighton v Bournemouth
Burnley v Manchester United
Liverpool v Wolves
Manchester City v Sheffield United
Newcastle United v Everton
Norwich City v Tottenham Hotspur
Southampton v Crystal Palace
Watford v Aston Villa
West Ham United v Leicester City

JANUARY 1

Arsenal v Manchester United
Brighton v Chelsea
Burnley v Aston Villa
Liverpool v Sheffield United
Manchester City v Everton
Newcastle United v Leicester City
Norwich City v Crystal Palace
Southampton v Tottenham Hotspur
Watford v Wolves
West Ham United v Bournemouth

JANUARY 11

Aston Villa v Manchester City
Bournemouth v Watford
Chelsea v Burnley
Crystal Palace v Arsenal
Everton v Brighton
Leicester City v Southampton
Manchester United v Norwich City
Sheffield United v West Ham United
Tottenham Hotspur v Liverpool
Wolves v Newcastle United

JANUARY 18

Arsenal v Sheffield United
Brighton v Aston Villa
Burnley v Leicester City
Liverpool v Manchester United
Manchester City v Crystal Palace
Newcastle United v Chelsea
Norwich City v Bournemouth
Southampton v Wolves
Watford v Tottenham Hotspur
West Ham United v Everton

JANUARY 21

Aston Villa v Watford
Bournemouth v Brighton
Everton v Newcastle United
Leicester City v West Ham United
Manchester United v Burnley
Sheffield United v Manchester City
Wolves v Liverpool

JANUARY 22

Chelsea v Arsenal
Crystal Palace v Southampton
Tottenham Hotspur v Norwich City

FEBRUARY 1

Bournemouth v Aston Villa
Burnley v Arsenal
Crystal Palace v Sheffield United
Leicester City v Chelsea
Liverpool v Southampton
Manchester United v Wolves
Newcastle United v Norwich City
Tottenham Hotspur v Manchester City
Watford v Everton
West Ham United v Brighton

FEBRUARY 8

Arsenal v Newcastle United
Aston Villa v Tottenham Hotspur
Brighton v Watford
Chelsea v Manchester United
Everton v Crystal Palace
Manchester City v West Ham United
Norwich City v Liverpool
Sheffield United v Bournemouth
Southampton v Burnley
Wolves v Leicester City

FEBRUARY 22

Arsenal v Everton
Burnley v Bournemouth
Chelsea v Tottenham Hotspur
Crystal Palace v Newcastle United
Leicester City v Manchester City
Liverpool v West Ham United
Manchester United v Watford
Sheffield United v Brighton
Southampton v Aston Villa
Wolves v Norwich City

FEBRUARY 29

Aston Villa v Sheffield United
Bournemouth v Chelsea
Brighton v Crystal Palace
Everton v Manchester United
Manchester City v Arsenal
Newcastle United v Burnley
Norwich City v Leicester City
Tottenham Hotspur v Wolves
Watford v Liverpool
West Ham United v Southampton

MARCH 7

Arsenal v West Ham United
Burnley v Tottenham Hotspur
Chelsea v Everton
Crystal Palace v Watford
Leicester City v Aston Villa
Liverpool v Bournemouth
Manchester United v Manchester City
Sheffield United v Norwich City
Southampton v Newcastle United
Wolves v Brighton

MARCH 14

Aston Villa v Chelsea
Bournemouth v Crystal Palace
Brighton v Arsenal
Everton v Liverpool
Manchester City v Burnley
Newcastle United v Sheffield United
Norwich City v Southampton
Tottenham Hotspur v Manchester United
Watford v Leicester City
West Ham United v Wolves

MARCH 21

Burnley v Watford
Chelsea v Manchester City
Leicester City v Brighton
Liverpool v Crystal Palace
Manchester United v Sheffield United
Newcastle United v Aston Villa
Norwich City v Everton

Feb 22...Chelsea v Tottenham Hotspur

Southampton v Arsenal
Tottenham Hotspur v West Ham United
Wolves v Bournemouth

APRIL 4

Arsenal v Norwich City
Aston Villa v Wolves
Bournemouth v Newcastle United
Brighton v Manchester United
Crystal Palace v Burnley
Everton v Leicester City
Manchester City v Liverpool
Sheffield United v Tottenham Hotspur
Watford v Southampton
West Ham United v Chelsea

APRIL 11

Burnley v Sheffield United
Chelsea v Watford
Leicester City v Crystal Palace
Liverpool v Aston Villa
Manchester United v Bournemouth
Newcastle United v West Ham United
Norwich City v Brighton
Southampton v Manchester City
Tottenham Hotspur v Everton
Wolves v Arsenal

APRIL 18

Arsenal v Leicester City
Aston Villa v Manchester United
Bournemouth v Tottenham Hotspur
Brighton v Liverpool
Crystal Palace v Chelsea
Everton v Southampton
Manchester City v Newcastle United
Sheffield United v Wolves
Watford v Norwich City
West Ham United v Burnley

APRIL 25

Aston Villa v Crystal Palace
Bournemouth v Leicester City
Brighton v Manchester City
Liverpool v Burnley
Manchester United v Southampton
Norwich City v West Ham United
Sheffield United v Chelsea
Tottenham Hotspur v Arsenal
Watford v Newcastle United
Wolves v Everton

MAY 2

Arsenal v Liverpool
Burnley v Wolves
Chelsea v Norwich City
Crystal Palace v Manchester United
Everton v Aston Villa
Leicester City v Sheffield United
Manchester City v Bournemouth
Newcastle United v Tottenham Hotspur
Southampton v Brighton
West Ham United v Watford

MAY 9

Aston Villa v Arsenal
Bournemouth v Southampton
Brighton v Newcastle United
Liverpool v Chelsea
Manchester United v West Ham United
Norwich City v Burnley
Sheffield United v Everton
Tottenham Hotspur v Leicester City
Watford v Manchester City
Wolves v Crystal Palace

MAY 17

Arsenal v Watford
Burnley v Brighton
Chelsea v Wolves
Crystal Palace v Tottenham Hotspur
Everton v Bournemouth
Leicester City v Manchester United
Manchester City v Norwich City
Newcastle United v Liverpool
Southampton v Sheffield United
West Ham United v Aston Villa

LIGUE 1 FIXTURES 2019-20

AUGUST 9
Monaco v Lyon

AUGUST 10
Angers v Bordeaux
Brest v Toulouse
Dijon v Saint-Etienne
Marseille v Reims
Montpellier v Rennes
Nice v Amiens

AUGUST 11
Lille v Nantes
Paris Saint-Germain v Nimes
Strasbourg v Metz

AUGUST 17
Amiens v Lille
Bordeaux v Montpellier
Lyon v Angers
Metz v Monaco
Nantes v Marseille
Nimes v Nice
Reims v Strasbourg
Rennes v Paris Saint-Germain
Saint-Etienne v Brest
Toulouse v Dijon

AUGUST 24
Amiens v Nantes
Angers v Metz
Brest v Reims
Dijon v Bordeaux
Lille v Saint-Etienne
Monaco v Nimes
Montpellier v Lyon
Nice v Marseille
Paris Saint-Germain v Toulouse
Strasbourg v Rennes

AUGUST 31
Angers v Dijon
Lyon v Bordeaux
Marseille v Saint-Etienne
Metz v Paris Saint-Germain
Nantes v Montpellier
Nimes v Brest
Reims v Lille
Rennes v Nice
Strasbourg v Monaco
Toulouse v Amiens

SEPTEMBER 14
Amiens v Lyon
Bordeaux v Metz
Brest v Rennes
Dijon v Nimes
Lille v Angers
Monaco v Marseille
Montpellier v Nice
Nantes v Reims
Paris Saint-Germain v Strasbourg
Saint-Etienne v Toulouse

SEPTEMBER 21
Angers v Saint-Etienne
Bordeaux v Brest
Lyon v Paris Saint-Germain
Marseille v Montpellier
Metz v Amiens
Nice v Dijon
Nimes v Toulouse
Reims v Monaco
Rennes v Lille
Strasbourg v Nantes

SEPTEMBER 25
Amiens v Bordeaux
Brest v Lyon
Dijon v Marseille
Lille v Strasbourg
Monaco v Nice
Montpellier v Nimes
Nantes v Rennes
Paris Saint-Germain v Reims
Saint-Etienne v Metz
Toulouse v Angers

SEPTEMBER 28
Angers v Amiens
Bordeaux v Paris Saint-Germain
Lyon v Nantes

Nov 9... Marseille v Lyon

Marseille v Rennes
Metz v Toulouse
Monaco v Brest
Nice v Lille
Nimes v Saint-Etienne
Reims v Dijon
Strasbourg v Montpellier

OCTOBER 5
Amiens v Marseille
Brest v Metz
Dijon v Strasbourg
Lille v Nimes
Montpellier v Monaco
Nantes v Nice
Paris Saint-Germain v Angers
Rennes v Reims
Saint-Etienne v Lyon
Toulouse v Bordeaux

OCTOBER 19
Angers v Brest
Bordeaux v Saint-Etienne
Lyon v Dijon
Marseille v Strasbourg
Metz v Nantes
Monaco v Rennes
Nice v Paris Saint-Germain
Nimes v Amiens
Reims v Montpellier
Toulouse v Lille

OCTOBER 26
Brest v Dijon
Lille v Bordeaux
Lyon v Metz
Montpellier v Angers
Nantes v Monaco
Paris Saint-Germain v Marseille
Reims v Nimes
Rennes v Toulouse
Saint-Etienne v Amiens
Strasbourg v Nice

NOVEMBER 2
Amiens v Brest
Angers v Strasbourg
Bordeaux v Nantes
Dijon v Paris Saint-Germain
Marseille v Lille
Metz v Montpellier
Nice v Reims
Nimes v Rennes
Saint-Etienne v Monaco
Toulouse v Lyon

NOVEMBER 9
Brest v Paris Saint-Germain
Lille v Metz
Marseille v Lyon
Monaco v Dijon
Montpellier v Toulouse
Nantes v Saint-Etienne
Nice v Bordeaux
Reims v Angers
Rennes v Amiens
Strasbourg v Nimes

NOVEMBER 23
Amiens v Strasbourg
Angers v Nimes
Bordeaux v Monaco
Brest v Nantes
Dijon v Rennes
Lyon v Nice
Metz v Reims
Paris Saint-Germain v Lille
Saint-Etienne v Montpellier
Toulouse v Marseille

NOVEMBER 30
Lille v Dijon
Marseille v Brest
Monaco v Paris Saint-Germain
Montpellier v Amiens
Nantes v Toulouse
Nice v Angers
Nimes v Metz
Reims v Bordeaux
Rennes v Saint-Etienne
Strasbourg v Lyon

DECEMBER 4
Amiens v Reims
Angers v Marseille
Bordeaux v Nimes
Brest v Strasbourg
Dijon v Montpellier
Lyon v Lille
Metz v Rennes
Paris Saint-Germain v Nantes
Saint-Etienne v Nice
Toulouse v Monaco

DECEMBER 7
Lille v Brest
Marseille v Bordeaux
Monaco v Amiens
Montpellier v Paris Saint-Germain
Nantes v Dijon
Nice v Metz
Nimes v Lyon
Reims v Saint-Etienne
Rennes v Angers
Strasbourg v Toulouse

DECEMBER 14
Amiens v Dijon
Angers v Monaco
Bordeaux v Strasbourg
Brest v Nice
Lille v Montpellier
Lyon v Rennes
Metz v Marseille
Nimes v Nantes
Saint-Etienne v Paris Saint-Germain
Toulouse v Reims

Oct 5...Montpellier v Monaco

DECEMBER 21

Dijon v Metz
Marseille v Nimes
Monaco v Lille
Montpellier v Brest
Nantes v Angers
Nice v Toulouse
Paris Saint-Germain v Amiens
Reims v Lyon
Rennes v Bordeaux
Strasbourg v Saint-Etienne

JANUARY 11

Amiens v Montpellier
Angers v Nice
Bordeaux v Lyon
Dijon v Lille
Metz v Strasbourg
Nimes v Reims
Paris Saint-Germain v Monaco
Rennes v Marseille
Saint-Etienne v Nantes
Toulouse v Brest

JANUARY 25

Brest v Amiens
Lille v Paris Saint-Germain
Lyon v Toulouse
Marseille v Angers
Monaco v Strasbourg
Montpellier v Dijon
Nantes v Bordeaux
Nice v Rennes
Reims v Metz
Saint-Etienne v Nimes

FEBRUARY 1

Amiens v Toulouse
Angers v Reims
Bordeaux v Marseille
Dijon v Brest
Metz v Saint-Etienne
Nice v Lyon
Nimes v Monaco
Paris Saint-Germain v Montpellier
Rennes v Nantes
Strasbourg v Lille

FEBRUARY 5

Brest v Bordeaux
Lille v Rennes
Lyon v Amiens
Monaco v Angers
Montpellier v Metz
Nantes v Paris Saint-Germain
Nimes v Dijon
Reims v Nice
Saint-Etienne v Marseille
Toulouse v Strasbourg

FEBRUARY 8

Amiens v Monaco
Angers v Lille
Dijon v Nantes
Marseille v Toulouse
Metz v Bordeaux
Montpellier v Saint-Etienne
Nice v Nimes
Paris Saint-Germain v Lyon
Rennes v Brest
Strasbourg v Reims

FEBRUARY 15

Amiens v Paris Saint-Germain
Bordeaux v Dijon
Brest v Saint-Etienne
Lille v Marseille
Lyon v Strasbourg
Monaco v Montpellier
Nantes v Metz

May 2...
Lille v Reims

Nimes v Angers
Reims v Rennes
Toulouse v Nice

FEBRUARY 22

Angers v Montpellier
Dijon v Monaco
Lille v Toulouse
Marseille v Nantes
Metz v Lyon
Nice v Brest
Paris Saint-Germain v Bordeaux
Rennes v Nimes
Saint-Etienne v Reims
Strasbourg v Amiens

FEBRUARY 29

Amiens v Metz
Bordeaux v Nice
Brest v Angers
Lyon v Saint-Etienne
Monaco v Reims
Montpellier v Strasbourg
Nantes v Lille
Nimes v Marseille
Paris Saint-Germain v Dijon
Toulouse v Rennes

MARCH 7

Angers v Nantes
Dijon v Toulouse
Lille v Lyon
Marseille v Amiens
Metz v Nimes
Nice v Monaco
Reims v Brest
Rennes v Montpellier
Saint-Etienne v Bordeaux
Strasbourg v Paris Saint-Germain

MARCH 14

Amiens v Angers
Bordeaux v Rennes
Brest v Lille
Lyon v Reims
Monaco v Saint-Etienne
Montpellier v Marseille
Nantes v Nimes
Paris Saint-Germain v Nice
Strasbourg v Dijon
Toulouse v Metz

MARCH 21

Angers v Toulouse
Dijon v Amiens
Lille v Monaco
Marseille v Paris Saint-Germain
Metz v Brest
Nice v Montpellier
Nimes v Bordeaux
Reims v Nantes
Rennes v Lyon
Saint-Etienne v Strasbourg

APRIL 5

Amiens v Rennes
Bordeaux v Reims
Brest v Marseille
Dijon v Nice
Lyon v Nimes
Monaco v Nantes
Montpellier v Lille
Paris Saint-Germain v Metz
Strasbourg v Angers
Toulouse v Saint-Etienne

APRIL 11

Angers v Paris Saint-Germain
Bordeaux v Amiens
Brest v Monaco
Marseille v Dijon
Metz v Lille
Nantes v Lyon
Nice v Strasbourg
Nimes v Montpellier
Reims v Toulouse
Saint-Etienne v Rennes

APRIL 18

Amiens v Nimes
Dijon v Angers
Lille v Nice
Lyon v Marseille
Monaco v Bordeaux
Montpellier v Reims
Paris Saint-Germain v Saint-Etienne
Rennes v Metz
Strasbourg v Brest
Toulouse v Nantes

APRIL 26

Bordeaux v Toulouse
Brest v Montpellier
Lyon v Monaco
Marseille v Nice
Metz v Dijon
Nantes v Amiens
Nimes v Lille
Reims v Paris Saint-Germain
Rennes v Strasbourg
Saint-Etienne v Angers

MAY 2

Amiens v Saint-Etienne
Angers v Rennes
Dijon v Lyon
Lille v Reims
Monaco v Metz
Montpellier v Bordeaux
Nice v Nantes
Paris Saint-Germain v Brest
Strasbourg v Marseille
Toulouse v Nimes

MAY 9

Bordeaux v Angers
Lyon v Montpellier
Marseille v Monaco
Metz v Nice
Nantes v Brest
Nimes v Strasbourg
Reims v Amiens
Rennes v Dijon
Saint-Etienne v Lille
Toulouse v Paris Saint-Germain

MAY 16

Angers v Lyon
Brest v Nimes
Dijon v Reims
Lille v Amiens
Marseille v Metz
Monaco v Toulouse
Montpellier v Nantes
Nice v Saint-Etienne
Paris Saint-Germain v Rennes
Strasbourg v Bordeaux

MAY 23

Amiens v Nice
Bordeaux v Lille
Lyon v Brest
Metz v Angers
Nantes v Strasbourg
Nimes v Paris Saint-Germain
Reims v Marseille
Rennes v Monaco
Saint-Etienne v Dijon
Toulouse v Montpellier

BUNDESLIGA FIXTURES 2019-20

AUGUST 16
Bayern Munich v Hertha Berlin

AUGUST 17
Bayer Leverkusen v Paderborn
Borussia Dortmund v Augsburg
Bor M'gladbach v Schalke
Freiburg v Mainz
Werder Bremen v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Wolfsburg v Cologne

AUGUST 18
Eintracht Frankfurt v Hoffenheim
Union Berlin v RB Leipzig

AUGUST 23
Cologne v Borussia Dortmund

AUGUST 24
Augsburg v Union Berlin
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Bayer Leverkusen
Hoffenheim v Werder Bremen
Mainz v Bor M'gladbach
Paderborn v Freiburg
Schalke v Bayern Munich

AUGUST 25
Hertha Berlin v Wolfsburg
RB Leipzig v Eintracht Frankfurt

AUGUST 30
Bor M'gladbach v RB Leipzig

AUGUST 31
Bayer Leverkusen v Hoffenheim
Bayern Munich v Mainz
Freiburg v Cologne
Schalke v Hertha Berlin
Wolfsburg v Paderborn
Union Berlin v Borussia Dortmund

SEPTEMBER 1
Eintracht Frankfurt v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Werder Bremen v Augsburg

SEPTEMBER 13
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Wolfsburg

SEPTEMBER 14
Augsburg v Eintracht Frankfurt
Borussia Dortmund v Bayer Leverkusen
Cologne v Bor M'gladbach
Mainz v Hertha Berlin
RB Leipzig v Bayern Munich
Union Berlin v Werder Bremen

SEPTEMBER 15
Hoffenheim v Freiburg
Paderborn v Schalke

SEPTEMBER 20
Schalke v Mainz

SEPTEMBER 21
Bayer Leverkusen v Union Berlin
Bayern Munich v Cologne
Freiburg v Augsburg
Hertha Berlin v Paderborn
Werder Bremen v RB Leipzig

SEPTEMBER 22
Bor M'gladbach v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Eintracht Frankfurt v Borussia Dortmund

SEPTEMBER 23
Wolfsburg v Hoffenheim

SEPTEMBER 27
Union Berlin v Eintracht Frankfurt

SEPTEMBER 28
Augsburg v Bayer Leverkusen
Borussia Dortmund v Werder Bremen
Hoffenheim v Bor M'gladbach
Mainz v Wolfsburg
Paderborn v Bayern Munich
RB Leipzig v Schalke

SEPTEMBER 29
Cologne v Hertha Berlin
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Freiburg

OCTOBER 5
Bayer Leverkusen v RB Leipzig
Bayern Munich v Hoffenheim
Bor M'gladbach v Augsburg
Eintracht Frankfurt v Werder Bremen
Freiburg v Borussia Dortmund
Hertha Berlin v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Paderborn v Mainz
Schalke v Cologne
Wolfsburg v Union Berlin

OCTOBER 19
Augsburg v Bayern Munich
Borussia Dortmund v Bor M'gladbach
Cologne v Paderborn
Eintracht Frankfurt v Bayer Leverkusen
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Mainz
Hoffenheim v Schalke
RB Leipzig v Wolfsburg
Union Berlin v Freiburg
Werder Bremen v Hertha Berlin

OCTOBER 26
Bayer Leverkusen v Werder Bremen
Bayern Munich v Union Berlin
Bor Bor M'gladbach v Eintracht Frankfurt
Freiburg v RB Leipzig

Feb 29...Augsburg v Borussia Monchengladbach

Hertha Berlin v Hoffenheim
Mainz v Cologne
Paderborn v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Schalke v Borussia Dortmund
Wolfsburg v Augsburg

NOVEMBER 2
Augsburg v Schalke
Bayer Leverkusen v Bor M'gladbach
Borussia Dortmund v Wolfsburg
Eintracht Frankfurt v Bayern Munich
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Cologne
Hoffenheim v Paderborn
RB Leipzig v Mainz
Union Berlin v Hertha Berlin
Werder Bremen v Freiburg

NOVEMBER 9
Bayern Munich v Borussia Dortmund
Bor M'gladbach v Werder Bremen
Cologne v Hoffenheim
Freiburg v Eintracht Frankfurt
Hertha Berlin v RB Leipzig
Mainz v Union Berlin
Paderborn v Augsburg
Schalke v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Wolfsburg v Bayer Leverkusen

NOVEMBER 23
Augsburg v Hertha Berlin
Bayer Leverkusen v Freiburg
Borussia Dortmund v Paderborn
Eintracht Frankfurt v Wolfsburg
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Bayern Munich
Hoffenheim v Mainz
RB Leipzig v Cologne
Union Berlin v Bor M'gladbach
Werder Bremen v Schalke

NOVEMBER 30
Bayern Munich v Bayer Leverkusen
Bor M'gladbach v Freiburg
Cologne v Augsburg
Hertha Berlin v Borussia Dortmund
Hoffenheim v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Mainz v Eintracht Frankfurt
Paderborn v RB Leipzig
Schalke v Union Berlin
Wolfsburg v Werder Bremen

DECEMBER 7
Augsburg v Mainz
Bayer Leverkusen v Schalke
Borussia Dortmund v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Bor M'gladbach v Bayern Munich
Eintracht Frankfurt v Hertha Berlin
Freiburg v Wolfsburg
RB Leipzig v Hoffenheim
Union Berlin v Cologne
Werder Bremen v Paderborn

DECEMBER 14
Bayern Munich v Werder Bremen
Cologne v Bayer Leverkusen
Fortuna Dusseldorf v RB Leipzig
Hertha Berlin v Freiburg
Hoffenheim v Augsburg
Mainz v Borussia Dortmund
Paderborn v Union Berlin
Schalke v Eintracht Frankfurt
Wolfsburg v Bor M'gladbach

DECEMBER 18
Augsburg v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Bayer Leverkusen v Hertha Berlin
Borussia Dortmund v RB Leipzig
Bor M'gladbach v Paderborn
Eintracht Frankfurt v Cologne
Freiburg v Bayern Munich
Union Berlin v Hoffenheim
Werder Bremen v Mainz
Wolfsburg v Schalke

DECEMBER 21
Bayern Munich v Wolfsburg
Cologne v Werder Bremen
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Union Berlin
Hertha Berlin v Bor M'gladbach
Hoffenheim v Borussia Dortmund
Mainz v Bayer Leverkusen
Paderborn v Eintracht Frankfurt
RB Leipzig v Augsburg
Schalke v Freiburg

JANUARY 18
Augsburg v Borussia Dortmund
Cologne v Wolfsburg
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Werder Bremen
Hertha Berlin v Bayern Munich
Hoffenheim v Eintracht Frankfurt
Mainz v Freiburg
Paderborn v Bayer Leverkusen
RB Leipzig v Union Berlin
Schalke v Bor M'gladbach[º]

JANUARY 25
Bayer Leverkusen v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Bayern Munich v Schalke
Borussia Dortmund v Cologne

Mar 14...Borussia Dortmund v Schalke

May 9...Hertha Berlin v Bayer Leverkusen

Bor M'gladbach v Mainz
Eintracht Frankfurt v RB Leipzig
Freiburg v Paderborn
Union Berlin v Augsburg
Werder Bremen v Hoffenheim
Wolfsburg v Hertha Berlin

FEBRUARY 1

Augsburg v Werder Bremen
Borussia Dortmund v Union Berlin
Cologne v Freiburg
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Eintracht Frankfurt
Hertha Berlin v Schalke
Hoffenheim v Bayer Leverkusen
Mainz v Bayern Munich
Paderborn v Wolfsburg
RB Leipzig v Bor M'gladbach

FEBRUARY 8

Bayer Leverkusen v Borussia Dortmund
Bayern Munich v RB Leipzig
Bor M'gladbach v Cologne
Eintracht Frankfurt v Augsburg
Freiburg v Hoffenheim
Hertha Berlin v Mainz
Schalke v Paderborn
Werder Bremen v Union Berlin
Wolfsburg v Fortuna Dusseldorf

FEBRUARY 15

Augsburg v Freiburg
Borussia Dortmund v Eintracht Frankfurt
Cologne v Bayern Munich
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Bor M'gladbach
Hoffenheim v Wolfsburg
Mainz v Schalke
Paderborn v Hertha Berlin
RB Leipzig v Werder Bremen
Union Berlin v Bayer Leverkusen

FEBRUARY 22

Bayer Leverkusen v Augsburg
Bayern Munich v Paderborn
Bor M'gladbach v Hoffenheim
Eintracht Frankfurt v Union Berlin
Freiburg v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Hertha Berlin v Cologne
Schalke v RB Leipzig
Werder Bremen v Borussia Dortmund
Wolfsburg v Mainz

FEBRUARY 29

Augsburg v Bor M'gladbach
Borussia Dortmund v Freiburg
Cologne v Schalke
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Hertha Berlin
Hoffenheim v Bayern Munich
Mainz v Paderborn
RB Leipzig v Bayer Leverkusen
Union Berlin v Wolfsburg
Werder Bremen v Eintracht Frankfurt

MARCH 7

Bayer Leverkusen v Eintracht Frankfurt
Bayern Munich v Augsburg
Bor M'gladbach v Borussia Dortmund
Freiburg v Union Berlin
Hertha Berlin v Werder Bremen
Mainz v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Paderborn v Cologne
Schalke v Hoffenheim
Wolfsburg v RB Leipzig

MARCH 14

Augsburg v Wolfsburg
Borussia Dortmund v Schalke
Cologne v Mainz
Eintracht Frankfurt v Bor M'gladbach
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Paderborn
Hoffenheim v Hertha Berlin
RB Leipzig v Freiburg
Union Berlin v Bayern Munich
Werder Bremen v Bayer Leverkusen

MARCH 21

Bayern Munich v Eintracht Frankfurt
Bor M'gladbach v Bayer Leverkusen
Cologne v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Freiburg v Werder Bremen
Hertha Berlin v Union Berlin
Mainz v RB Leipzig
Paderborn v Hoffenheim
Schalke v Augsburg
Wolfsburg v Borussia Dortmund

APRIL 4

Augsburg v Paderborn
Bayer Leverkusen v Wolfsburg
Borussia Dortmund v Bayern Munich
Eintracht Frankfurt v Freiburg
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Schalke
Hoffenheim v Cologne
RB Leipzig v Hertha Berlin
Union Berlin v Mainz
Werder Bremen v Bor M'gladbach

APRIL 11

Bayern Munich v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Bor M'gladbach v Union Berlin
Cologne v RB Leipzig
Freiburg v Bayer Leverkusen
Hertha Berlin v Augsburg
Mainz v Hoffenheim
Paderborn v Borussia Dortmund
Schalke v Werder Bremen
Wolfsburg v Eintracht Frankfurt

APRIL 18

Augsburg v Cologne
Bayer Leverkusen v Bayern Munich
Borussia Dortmund v Hertha Berlin
Eintracht Frankfurt v Mainz
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Hoffenheim
Freiburg v Bor M'gladbach
RB Leipzig v Paderborn
Union Berlin v Schalke
Werder Bremen v Wolfsburg

APRIL 25

Bayern Munich v Bor M'gladbach
Cologne v Union Berlin
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Borussia Dortmund
Hertha Berlin v Eintracht Frankfurt
Hoffenheim v RB Leipzig
Mainz v Augsburg
Paderborn v Werder Bremen
Schalke v Bayer Leverkusen
Wolfsburg v Freiburg

MAY 2

Augsburg v Hoffenheim
Bayer Leverkusen v Cologne
Borussia Dortmund v Mainz
Bor M'gladbach v Wolfsburg
Eintracht Frankfurt v Schalke
Freiburg v Hertha Berlin
RB Leipzig v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Union Berlin v Paderborn
Werder Bremen v Bayern Munich

MAY 9

Bayern Munich v Freiburg
Cologne v Eintracht Frankfurt
Fortuna Dusseldorf v Augsburg
Hertha Berlin v Bayer Leverkusen
Hoffenheim v Union Berlin
Mainz v Werder Bremen
Paderborn v Bor M'gladbach
RB Leipzig v Borussia Dortmund
Schalke v Wolfsburg

MAY 16

Augsburg v RB Leipzig
Bayer Leverkusen v Mainz
Borussia Dortmund v Hoffenheim
Bor M'gladbach v Hertha Berlin
Eintracht Frankfurt v Paderborn
Freiburg v Schalke
Union Berlin v Fortuna Dusseldorf
Werder Bremen v Cologne
Wolfsburg v Bayern Munich

SERIE A FIXTURES 2019-20

AUGUST 25
Cagliari v Brescia
Fiorentina v Napoli
Internazionale v Lecce
Parma v Juventus
Roma v Genoa
Sampdoria v Lazio
SPAL v Atalanta
Torino v Sassuolo
Udinese v Milan
Verona v Bologna

SEPTEMBER 1
Atalanta v Torino
Bologna v SPAL
Cagliari v Internazionale
Genoa v Fiorentina
Juventus v Napoli
Lazio v Roma
Lecce v Verona
Milan v Brescia
Sassuolo v Sampdoria
Udinese v Parma

SEPTEMBER 15
Brescia v Bologna
Fiorentina v Juventus
Genoa v Atalanta
Internazionale v Udinese
Napoli v Sampdoria
Parma v Cagliari
Roma v Sassuolo
SPAL v Lazio
Torino v Lecce
Verona v Milan

SEPTEMBER 22
Atalanta v Fiorentina
Bologna v Roma
Cagliari v Genoa
Juventus v Verona
Lazio v Parma
Lecce v Napoli
Milan v Internazionale
Sampdoria v Torino
Sassuolo v SPAL
Udinese v Brescia

SEPTEMBER 25
Brescia v Juventus
Fiorentina v Sampdoria
Genoa v Bologna
Internazionale v Lazio
Napoli v Cagliari
Parma v Sassuolo
Roma v Atalanta
SPAL v Lecce
Torino v Milan
Verona v Udinese

SEPTEMBER 29
Cagliari v Verona
Juventus v SPAL
Lazio v Genoa
Lecce v Roma
Milan v Fiorentina
Napoli v Brescia
Parma v Torino
Sampdoria v Internazionale
Sassuolo v Atalanta
Udinese v Bologna

OCTOBER 6
Atalanta v Lecce
Bologna v Lazio
Brescia v Sassuolo
Fiorentina v Udinese
Genoa v Milan
Internazionale v Juventus
Roma v Cagliari
SPAL v Parma
Torino v Napoli
Verona v Sampdoria

OCTOBER 20
Brescia v Fiorentina
Cagliari v SPAL
Juventus v Bologna
Lazio v Atalanta
Milan v Lecce
Napoli v Verona
Parma v Genoa
Sampdoria v Roma
Sassuolo v Internazionale
Udinese v Torino

OCTOBER 27
Atalanta v Udinese
Bologna v Sampdoria
Fiorentina v Lazio
Genoa v Brescia
Internazionale v Parma
Lecce v Juventus
Roma v Milan
SPAL v Napoli
Torino v Cagliari
Verona v Sassuolo

OCTOBER 30
Brescia v Internazionale
Cagliari v Bologna
Juventus v Genoa
Lazio v Torino
Milan v SPAL
Napoli v Atalanta
Parma v Verona
Sampdoria v Lecce
Sassuolo v Fiorentina
Udinese v Roma

NOVEMBER 3
Atalanta v Cagliari
Bologna v Internazionale
Fiorentina v Parma
Genoa v Udinese
Lecce v Sassuolo
Milan v Lazio
Roma v Napoli
SPAL v Sampdoria
Torino v Juventus
Verona v Brescia

NOVEMBER 10
Brescia v Torino
Cagliari v Fiorentina
Internazionale v Verona
Juventus v Milan
Lazio v Lecce
Napoli v Genoa
Parma v Roma
Sampdoria v Atalanta
Sassuolo v Bologna
Udinese v SPAL

NOVEMBER 24
Atalanta v Juventus
Bologna v Parma
Lecce v Cagliari
Milan v Napoli
Roma v Brescia
Sampdoria v Udinese
Sassuolo v Lazio
SPAL v Genoa
Torino v Internazionale
Verona v Fiorentina

DECEMBER 1
Brescia v Atalanta
Cagliari v Sampdoria
Fiorentina v Lecce
Genoa v Torino
Internazionale v SPAL
Juventus v Sassuolo
Lazio v Udinese
Napoli v Bologna
Parma v Milan
Verona v Roma

DECEMBER 8
Atalanta v Verona
Bologna v Milan
Internazionale v Roma
Lazio v Juventus
Lecce v Genoa
Sampdoria v Parma
Sassuolo v Cagliari
SPAL v Brescia
Torino v Fiorentina
Udinese v Napoli

DECEMBER 15
Bologna v Atalanta
Brescia v Lecce
Cagliari v Lazio
Fiorentina v Internazionale
Genoa v Sampdoria
Juventus v Udinese
Milan v Sassuolo
Napoli v Parma
Roma v SPAL
Verona v Torino

Nov 3...Milan v Lazio

Dec 15...Genoa v Sampdoria

DECEMBER 22
Atalanta v Milan
Fiorentina v Roma
Internazionale v Genoa
Lazio v Verona
Lecce v Bologna
Parma v Brescia
Sampdoria v Juventus
Sassuolo v Napoli
Torino v SPAL
Udinese v Cagliari

JANUARY 5
Atalanta v Parma
Bologna v Fiorentina
Brescia v Lazio
Genoa v Sassuolo
Juventus v Cagliari
Lecce v Udinese
Milan v Sampdoria
Napoli v Internazionale
Roma v Torino
SPAL v Verona

JANUARY 12
Cagliari v Milan
Fiorentina v SPAL
Internazionale v Atalanta
Lazio v Napoli
Parma v Lecce
Roma v Juventus
Sampdoria v Brescia
Torino v Bologna
Udinese v Sassuolo
Verona v Genoa

JANUARY 19
Atalanta v SPAL
Bologna v Verona
Brescia v Cagliari
Genoa v Roma
Juventus v Parma
Lazio v Sampdoria
Lecce v Internazionale
Milan v Udinese
Napoli v Fiorentina
Sassuolo v Torino

JANUARY 26
Brescia v Milan
Fiorentina v Genoa
Internazionale v Cagliari
Napoli v Juventus
Parma v Udinese
Roma v Lazio
Sampdoria v Sassuolo
SPAL v Bologna
Torino v Atalanta
Verona v Lecce

FEBRUARY 2
Atalanta v Genoa
Bologna v Brescia
Cagliari v Parma
Juventus v Fiorentina
Lazio v SPAL
Lecce v Torino
Milan v Verona
Sampdoria v Napoli
Sassuolo v Roma
Udinese v Internazionale

FEBRUARY 9
Brescia v Udinese
Fiorentina v Atalanta
Genoa v Cagliari
Internazionale v Milan
Napoli v Lecce
Parma v Lazio
Roma v Bologna
SPAL v Sassuolo
Torino v Sampdoria
Verona v Juventus

FEBRUARY 16
Atalanta v Roma
Bologna v Genoa
Cagliari v Napoli
Juventus v Brescia
Lazio v Internazionale
Lecce v SPAL
Milan v Torino
Sampdoria v Fiorentina
Sassuolo v Parma
Udinese v Verona

FEBRUARY 23
Atalanta v Sassuolo
Bologna v Udinese
Brescia v Napoli
Fiorentina v Milan
Genoa v Lazio
Internazionale v Sampdoria
Roma v Lecce
SPAL v Juventus
Torino v Parma
Verona v Cagliari

MARCH 1
Cagliari v Roma
Juventus v Internazionale
Lazio v Bologna
Lecce v Atalanta
Milan v Genoa
Napoli v Torino
Parma v SPAL
Sampdoria v Verona
Sassuolo v Brescia
Udinese v Fiorentina

MARCH 8
Atalanta v Lazio
Bologna v Juventus
Fiorentina v Brescia
Genoa v Parma
Internazionale v Sassuolo
Lecce v Milan
Roma v Sampdoria
SPAL v Cagliari
Torino v Udinese
Verona v Napoli

MARCH 15
Brescia v Genoa
Cagliari v Torino
Juventus v Lecce
Lazio v Fiorentina
Milan v Roma
Napoli v SPAL
Parma v Internazionale
Sampdoria v Bologna
Sassuolo v Verona
Udinese v Atalanta

MARCH 22
Atalanta v Napoli
Bologna v Cagliari
Fiorentina v Sassuolo
Genoa v Juventus
Internazionale v Brescia
Lecce v Sampdoria
Roma v Udinese
SPAL v Milan
Torino v Lazio
Verona v Parma

APRIL 5
Brescia v Verona
Cagliari v Atalanta
Internazionale v Bologna
Juventus v Torino
Lazio v Milan
Napoli v Roma
Parma v Fiorentina
Sampdoria v SPAL
Sassuolo v Lecce
Udinese v Genoa

APRIL 11
Atalanta v Sampdoria
Bologna v Sassuolo
Fiorentina v Cagliari
Genoa v Napoli
Lecce v Lazio
Milan v Juventus
Roma v Parma
SPAL v Udinese
Torino v Brescia
Verona v Internazionale

APRIL 19
Brescia v Roma
Cagliari v Lecce
Fiorentina v Verona
Genoa v SPAL
Internazionale v Torino
Juventus v Atalanta
Lazio v Sassuolo
Napoli v Milan
Parma v Bologna
Udinese v Sampdoria

APRIL 22
Atalanta v Brescia
Bologna v Napoli
Lecce v Fiorentina
Milan v Parma
Roma v Verona
Sampdoria v Cagliari
Sassuolo v Juventus
SPAL v Internazionale
Torino v Genoa
Udinese v Lazio

APRIL 26
Brescia v SPAL
Cagliari v Sassuolo
Fiorentina v Torino
Genoa v Lecce
Juventus v Lazio
Milan v Bologna
Napoli v Udinese
Parma v Sampdoria
Roma v Internazionale
Verona v Atalanta

MAY 3
Atalanta v Bologna
Internazionale v Fiorentina
Lazio v Cagliari
Lecce v Brescia
Parma v Napoli
Sampdoria v Genoa
Sassuolo v Milan
SPAL v Roma
Torino v Verona
Udinese v Juventus

MAY 10
Bologna v Lecce
Brescia v Parma
Cagliari v Udinese
Genoa v Internazionale
Juventus v Sampdoria
Milan v Atalanta
Napoli v Sassuolo
Roma v Fiorentina
SPAL v Torino
Verona v Lazio

MAY 17
Cagliari v Juventus
Fiorentina v Bologna
Internazionale v Napoli
Lazio v Brescia
Parma v Atalanta
Sampdoria v Milan
Sassuolo v Genoa
Torino v Roma
Udinese v Lecce
Verona v SPAL

MAY 24
Atalanta v Internazionale
Bologna v Torino
Brescia v Sampdoria
Genoa v Verona
Juventus v Roma
Lecce v Parma
Milan v Cagliari
Napoli v Lazio
Sassuolo v Udinese
SPAL v Fiorentina

Mar 1...Juventus v Internazionale

LA LIGA FIXTURES 2019-20

AUGUST 17
Athletic Bilbao v Barcelona
Celta Vigo v Real Madrid
Leganes v Osasuna
Real Mallorca v Eibar
Valencia v Real Sociedad
Villarreal v Granada

AUGUST 18
Alaves v Levante
Atletico Madrid v Getafe
Espanyol v Sevilla
Real Betis v Real Valladolid

AUGUST 24
Celta Vigo v Valencia
Getafe v Athletic Bilbao
Granada v Sevilla
Leganes v Atletico Madrid
Osasuna v Eibar
Real Madrid v Real Valladolid

AUGUST 25
Alaves v Espanyol
Barcelona v Real Betis
Levante v Villarreal
Real Mallorca v Real Sociedad

AUGUST 31
Athletic Bilbao v Real Sociedad
Getafe v Alaves
Levante v Real Valladolid
Osasuna v Barcelona
Real Betis v Leganes
Sevilla v Celta Vigo

SEPTEMBER 1
Atletico Madrid v Eibar
Espanyol v Granada
Valencia v Real Mallorca
Villarreal v Real Madrid

SEPTEMBER 15
Alaves v Sevilla
Barcelona v Valencia
Celta Vigo v Granada
Eibar v Espanyol
Leganes v Villarreal
Real Betis v Getafe
Real Madrid v Levante
Real Mallorca v Athletic Bilbao
Real Sociedad v Atletico Madrid
Real Valladolid v Osasuna

SEPTEMBER 22
Athletic Bilbao v Alaves
Atletico Madrid v Celta Vigo
Espanyol v Real Sociedad
Getafe v Real Mallorca
Granada v Barcelona
Levante v Eibar
Osasuna v Real Betis
Sevilla v Real Madrid
Valencia v Leganes
Villarreal v Real Valladolid

SEPTEMBER 25
Barcelona v Villarreal
Celta Vigo v Espanyol
Eibar v Sevilla
Leganes v Athletic Bilbao
Real Betis v Levante
Real Madrid v Osasuna
Real Mallorca v Atletico Madrid
Real Sociedad v Alaves
Real Valladolid v Granada
Valencia v Getafe

SEPTEMBER 29
Alaves v Real Mallorca
Athletic Bilbao v Valencia
Atletico Madrid v Real Madrid
Eibar v Celta Vigo
Espanyol v Real Valladolid
Getafe v Barcelona
Granada v Leganes
Levante v Osasuna
Sevilla v Real Sociedad
Villarreal v Real Betis

Sep 29...Atletico Madrid v Real Madrid

OCTOBER 6
Barcelona v Sevilla
Celta Vigo v Athletic Bilbao
Leganes v Levante
Osasuna v Villarreal
Real Betis v Eibar
Real Madrid v Granada
Real Mallorca v Espanyol
Real Sociedad v Getafe
Real Valladolid v Atletico Madrid
Valencia v Alaves

OCTOBER 20
Alaves v Celta Vigo
Athletic Bilbao v Real Valladolid
Atletico Madrid v Valencia
Eibar v Barcelona
Espanyol v Villarreal
Getafe v Leganes
Granada v Osasuna
Real Mallorca v Real Madrid
Real Sociedad v Real Betis
Sevilla v Levante

OCTOBER 27
Atletico Madrid v Athletic Bilbao
Barcelona v Real Madrid
Celta Vigo v Real Sociedad
Granada v Real Betis
Leganes v Real Mallorca
Levante v Espanyol
Osasuna v Valencia
Real Valladolid v Eibar
Sevilla v Getafe
Villarreal v Alaves

OCTOBER 30
Alaves v Atletico Madrid
Athletic Bilbao v Espanyol
Barcelona v Real Valladolid
Eibar v Villarreal
Getafe v Granada
Real Betis v Celta Vigo
Real Madrid v Leganes

Nov 24...Villarreal v Celta Vigo

Real Mallorca v Osasuna
Real Sociedad v Levante
Valencia v Sevilla

NOVEMBER 3
Celta Vigo v Getafe
Espanyol v Valencia
Granada v Real Sociedad
Leganes v Eibar
Levante v Barcelona
Osasuna v Alaves
Real Madrid v Real Betis
Real Valladolid v Real Mallorca
Sevilla v Atletico Madrid
Villarreal v Athletic Bilbao

NOVEMBER 10
Alaves v Real Valladolid
Athletic Bilbao v Levante
Atletico Madrid v Espanyol
Barcelona v Celta Vigo
Eibar v Real Madrid
Getafe v Osasuna
Real Betis v Sevilla
Real Mallorca v Villarreal
Real Sociedad v Leganes
Valencia v Granada

NOVEMBER 24
Eibar v Alaves
Espanyol v Getafe
Granada v Atletico Madrid
Leganes v Barcelona
Levante v Real Mallorca
Osasuna v Athletic Bilbao
Real Betis v Valencia
Real Madrid v Real Sociedad
Real Valladolid v Sevilla
Villarreal v Celta Vigo

DECEMBER 1
Alaves v Real Madrid
Athletic Bilbao v Granada
Atletico Madrid v Barcelona
Celta Vigo v Real Valladolid
Espanyol v Osasuna
Getafe v Levante
Real Mallorca v Real Betis
Real Sociedad v Eibar
Sevilla v Leganes
Valencia v Villarreal

DECEMBER 8
Barcelona v Real Mallorca
Eibar v Getafe
Granada v Alaves
Leganes v Celta Vigo
Levante v Valencia
Osasuna v Sevilla
Real Betis v Athletic Bilbao
Real Madrid v Espanyol
Real Valladolid v Real Sociedad
Villarreal v Atletico Madrid

DECEMBER 15

Alaves v Leganes
Athletic Bilbao v Eibar
Atletico Madrid v Osasuna
Celta Vigo v Real Mallorca
Espanyol v Real Betis
Getafe v Real Valladolid
Granada v Levante
Real Sociedad v Barcelona
Sevilla v Villarreal
Valencia v Real Madrid

DECEMBER 22

Barcelona v Alaves
Eibar v Granada
Leganes v Espanyol
Levante v Celta Vigo
Osasuna v Real Sociedad
Real Betis v Atletico Madrid
Real Madrid v Athletic Bilbao
Real Mallorca v Sevilla
Real Valladolid v Valencia
Villarreal v Getafe

JANUARY 5

Alaves v Real Betis
Atletico Madrid v Levante
Celta Vigo v Osasuna
Espanyol v Barcelona
Getafe v Real Madrid
Granada v Real Mallorca
Real Sociedad v Villarreal
Real Valladolid v Leganes
Sevilla v Athletic Bilbao
Valencia v Eibar

JANUARY 19

Athletic Bilbao v Celta Vigo
Barcelona v Granada
Eibar v Atletico Madrid
Leganes v Getafe
Levante v Alaves
Osasuna v Real Valladolid
Real Betis v Real Sociedad
Real Madrid v Sevilla
Real Mallorca v Valencia
Villarreal v Espanyol

JANUARY 26

Alaves v Villarreal
Atletico Madrid v Leganes
Celta Vigo v Eibar
Espanyol v Athletic Bilbao
Getafe v Real Betis
Osasuna v Levante
Real Sociedad v Real Mallorca
Real Valladolid v Real Madrid
Sevilla v Granada
Valencia v Barcelona

FEBRUARY 2

Athletic Bilbao v Getafe
Barcelona v Levante
Eibar v Real Betis
Granada v Espanyol
Leganes v Real Sociedad
Real Madrid v Atletico Madrid
Real Mallorca v Real Valladolid
Sevilla v Alaves
Valencia v Celta Vigo
Villarreal v Osasuna

FEBRUARY 9

Alaves v Eibar
Atletico Madrid v Granada
Celta Vigo v Sevilla
Espanyol v Real Mallorca
Getafe v Valencia
Levante v Leganes
Osasuna v Real Madrid
Real Betis v Barcelona
Real Sociedad v Athletic Bilbao
Real Valladolid v Villarreal

FEBRUARY 16

Athletic Bilbao v Osasuna
Barcelona v Getafe
Eibar v Real Sociedad
Granada v Real Valladolid
Leganes v Real Betis
Real Madrid v Celta Vigo
Real Mallorca v Alaves
Sevilla v Espanyol
Valencia v Atletico Madrid
Villarreal v Levante

FEBRUARY 23

Alaves v Athletic Bilbao
Atletico Madrid v Villarreal
Barcelona v Eibar
Celta Vigo v Leganes
Getafe v Sevilla
Levante v Real Madrid
Osasuna v Granada
Real Betis v Real Mallorca
Real Sociedad v Valencia
Real Valladolid v Espanyol

MARCH 1

Athletic Bilbao v Villarreal
Eibar v Levante
Espanyol v Atletico Madrid
Granada v Celta Vigo
Leganes v Alaves
Real Madrid v Barcelona
Real Mallorca v Getafe
Real Sociedad v Real Valladolid
Sevilla v Osasuna
Valencia v Real Betis

MARCH 8

Alaves v Valencia
Atletico Madrid v Sevilla
Barcelona v Real Sociedad
Eibar v Real Mallorca
Getafe v Celta Vigo
Levante v Granada
Osasuna v Espanyol
Real Betis v Real Madrid
Real Valladolid v Athletic Bilbao
Villarreal v Leganes

MARCH 15

Athletic Bilbao v Atletico Madrid
Celta Vigo v Villarreal
Espanyol v Alaves
Granada v Getafe
Leganes v Real Valladolid
Real Madrid v Eibar
Real Mallorca v Barcelona
Real Sociedad v Osasuna
Sevilla v Real Betis
Valencia v Levante

MARCH 22

Alaves v Real Sociedad
Barcelona v Leganes
Eibar v Athletic Bilbao
Getafe v Espanyol
Levante v Sevilla
Osasuna v Atletico Madrid
Real Betis v Granada
Real Madrid v Valencia
Real Valladolid v Celta Vigo
Villarreal v Real Mallorca

APRIL 5

Athletic Bilbao v Real Betis
Atletico Madrid v Real Valladolid
Celta Vigo v Alaves
Espanyol v Levante
Getafe v Eibar
Granada v Villarreal
Real Mallorca v Leganes
Real Sociedad v Real Madrid
Sevilla v Barcelona
Valencia v Osasuna

APRIL 12

Alaves v Osasuna
Barcelona v Athletic Bilbao
Eibar v Valencia
Leganes v Granada
Levante v Atletico Madrid
Real Betis v Espanyol
Real Madrid v Real Mallorca
Real Sociedad v Celta Vigo
Real Valladolid v Getafe
Villarreal v Sevilla

Mar 15...Sevilla v Real Betis

APRIL 22

Athletic Bilbao v Real Mallorca
Atletico Madrid v Alaves
Celta Vigo v Barcelona
Espanyol v Real Madrid
Getafe v Real Sociedad
Granada v Eibar
Levante v Real Betis
Osasuna v Leganes
Sevilla v Real Valladolid
Villarreal v Valencia

APRIL 26

Alaves v Granada
Barcelona v Atletico Madrid
Eibar v Osasuna
Leganes v Sevilla
Real Betis v Villarreal
Real Madrid v Getafe
Real Mallorca v Celta Vigo
Real Sociedad v Espanyol
Real Valladolid v Levante
Valencia v Athletic Bilbao

MAY 3

Athletic Bilbao v Real Madrid
Atletico Madrid v Real Mallorca
Celta Vigo v Real Betis
Espanyol v Leganes
Granada v Valencia
Levante v Real Sociedad
Osasuna v Getafe
Real Valladolid v Alaves
Sevilla v Eibar
Villarreal v Barcelona

MAY 10

Athletic Bilbao v Sevilla
Barcelona v Espanyol
Celta Vigo v Atletico Madrid
Eibar v Leganes
Getafe v Villarreal
Real Betis v Osasuna
Real Madrid v Alaves
Real Mallorca v Levante
Real Sociedad v Granada
Valencia v Real Valladolid

MAY 13

Alaves v Getafe
Atletico Madrid v Real Betis
Espanyol v Eibar
Granada v Real Madrid
Leganes v Valencia
Levante v Athletic Bilbao
Osasuna v Celta Vigo
Real Valladolid v Barcelona
Sevilla v Real Mallorca
Villarreal v Real Sociedad

MAY 17

Athletic Bilbao v Leganes
Barcelona v Osasuna
Celta Vigo v Levante
Eibar v Real Valladolid
Getafe v Atletico Madrid
Real Betis v Alaves
Real Madrid v Villarreal
Real Mallorca v Granada
Real Sociedad v Sevilla
Valencia v Espanyol

MAY 24

Alaves v Barcelona
Atletico Madrid v Real Sociedad
Espanyol v Celta Vigo
Granada v Athletic Bilbao
Leganes v Real Madrid
Levante v Getafe
Osasuna v Real Mallorca
Real Valladolid v Real Betis
Sevilla v Valencia
Villarreal v Eibar

Internationals

AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS

Played in Egypt

Group A

Jun 21 - Cairo
Egypt 1 (Trezeguet 41)
Zimbabwe 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 73,299. **Ref:** Alioum (Cam)
Egypt: M El Shenawy - A Elmohamady, Alaa, Hegazi, Ashraf, Hamed, Elneny, Said (Warda 71), Trezeguet (Donga 81), Salah, M Mohsen (Soliman 60).
Zimbabwe: Sibanda (Chipezeze 80) - Darikwa, Mudimu, Hadebe, Lunga, Musona (Chawapiwa 85), Munetsi, Nakamba, Billiat, Karuru, Mushekwi (E Rusike 81).

Jun 22 - Cairo
DR Congo 0
Uganda 2 (Kaddu 14, Okwi 48)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 1,083. **Ref:** Jiyed (Mor)
DR Congo: Matampi - Mpeko, Luyindama, Tisserand, Masuaku, Bokadi, Elia, Mbemba (Maghoma 60), M'Poku (Bolingi 52), Bolasie (Assombalonga 71), Bakambu.
Uganda: Onyango - Mugabi, Juuko, Wasswa, Walusimbi, Azira, Aucho, Abdu (Muleme 81), Miya (Awany 88), Okwi, Kaddu (Kyambadde 75).

Jun 26 - Cairo
Uganda 1 (Okwi 12)
Zimbabwe 1 (Billiat 40)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 73,589. **Ref:** Otogo-Castane (Gab)
Uganda: Onyango - Mugabi, Mukiibi, Wasswa, Walusimbi, Aucho, Azira (Lwanga 62), Abdu, Miya (Awany 89), Okwi (Kyambadde 73), Kaddu.
Zimbabwe: Chigova - Darikwa, Mudimu, Hadebe, Lunga, Kamusoko (Munetsi 65), Phiri, Chawapiwa (E Rusike 64), Billiat, Karuru, Musona.

Jun 26 - Cairo
Egypt 2 (A Elmohamady 25, Salah 43)
DR Congo 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 74,219. **Ref:** Gomes (SAf)
Egypt: M El Shenawy - A Elmohamady, Alaa, Hegazi, Ashraf, Hamed, Elneny, Salah, Said (Soliman 68), Trezeguet (Ghazal 84), M Mohsen (Kouka 59).
DR Congo: Matampi - Mpeko, Luyindama, Tisserand, Ngonda, Moke Abro, Bokadi (Bolasie 64), Bolingi, Mputu (Elia 46), Maghoma, Bakambu.

Jun 30 - Cairo
Uganda 0
Egypt 2 (Salah 36, A Elmohamady 45+1)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 74,566. **Ref:** Ndiaye (Sen)
Uganda: Onyango (Odongkara 72) - Wadada, Awany, Wasswa, Walusimbi, Miya, Aucho (Lwanga 71), Azira, Kyambadde (Luwagga 79), Abdu, Okwi.
Egypt: M El Shenawy - A Elmohamady (O Gaber 90+1), B Elmohamady, Hegazi, Ashraf, Elneny (Hamed 62), Donga, Said, Salah, Kouka (M Mohsen 25), Trezeguet.

Jun 30 - Cairo
Zimbabwe 0
DR Congo 4 (Bolingi 4, Bakambu 34, pen 65, Assombalonga 78)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 4,364. **Ref:** Ghorbal (Alg)
Zimbabwe: Chipezeze - Darikwa, Mhlanga, Hadebe, Pfumbidzai, Munetsi (Kadewere 70), Phiri, Karuru, Chawapiwa (Mushekwi 52), Musona (Mahachi 80), Billiat.
DR Congo: Matampi - Mpeko, Mbemba, Tisserand, Ngonda, Akolo (Luyindama 83), Mulumbu (Elia 76), Moke Abro, Maghoma, Bolingi (Assombalonga 45+1), Bakambu.

AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS – GROUP A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Egypt (Q)	3	3	0	0	5	0	9
Uganda (Q)	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
DR Congo (Q)	3	1	0	2	4	4	3
Zimbabwe	3	0	1	2	1	6	1

Group B

Jun 22 - Alexandria
Nigeria 1 (Ighalo 77)
Burundi 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 3,192. **Ref:** Camille (Sey)
Nigeria: Akpeyi - Abdullahi (Awaziem 42), Troost-Ekong, Omeruo, Aina, Ndidi, Etebo, Chukwueze, Mikel (Musa 58), Iwobi, Onuachu (Ighalo 73).
Burundi: J Nahimana - Moussa, Nshimirimana, Nsabiyumva, Duhayindavyi, Mustafa (Kamsoba 59), Bigirimana, S Nahimana (Nduwarugira 76), C Amissi, Berahino (M Amissi 90+2), Abdul Razak.

Jun 22 - Alexandria
Guinea 2 (Kaba 34, Kamano pen 66)
Madagascar 2 (Andrianantenaina 49, Andriamatsinoro 55)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 5,342. **Ref:** Omar (Egy)
Guinea: A Keita - Dyrestam, Jeanvier, Falette, Issiaga Sylla, Diawara, Traore, Cisse, M Camara (N Keita 62), Kamano (Koita 78), Kaba (M Yattara 86).
Madagascar: Adrien - Metanire, Razakanantenaina, Fontaine, Mombris, Andrianantenaina, Nomenjanahary, Ilaimaharitra, Amada (Raveloson 64), Andriamatsinoro (Voavy 73), Andriatsima.

Jun 26 - Alexandria
Nigeria 1 (Omeruo 73)
Guinea 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,388. **Ref:** Martins de Carvalho (Ang)
Nigeria: Akpeyi - Awaziem, Omeruo, Balogun, Aina, Etebo, Ndidi, Simon (Kalu 90+4), Iwobi (Chukwueze 78), Musa, Ighalo (Onuachu 88).
Guinea: Kone - Dyrestam (Sidibe 73), Seka, Falette, Issiaga Sylla, Diawara, Cisse, Traore, N Keita (Bangoura 71), Kamano (Koita 82), Kaba.

Jun 27 - Alexandria
Madagascar 1 (Ilaimaharitra 76)
Burundi 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 4,900. **Ref:** Guirat (Tun)
Madagascar: Adrien - Metanire, Razakanantenaina, Fontaine, Mombris, Ilaimaharitra, Andrianantenaina, Amada (Rakotoharimalala 61), Nomenjanahary (Raveloson 74), Andriatsima, Andriamatsinoro (Voavy 51).
Burundi: J Nahimana - Nizigiyimana, Ngandu, Nsabiyumva, Nduwarugira, Duhayindavyi, Bigirimana, Abdul Razak, S Nahimana (Sabumukama 46), C Amissi (Mavugo 82), Berahino (M Amissi 61).

Jun 30 - Alexandria
Madagascar 2 (Nomenjanahary 13, Andriamatsinoro 53)
Nigeria 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 9,895. **Ref:** Gassama (Gam)
Madagascar: Adrien - Metanire, Razakanantenaina (Randrianarisoa 74), Fontaine, Mombris, Ilaimaharitra, Andrianantenaina, Amada (Raveloson 86), Nomenjanahary, Andriatsima (Gros 62), Andriamatsinoro.
Nigeria: Ezenwa - Awaziem, Troost-Ekong, Balogun, Aina, Ogu (Ndidi 46), Etebo, Kalu (Simon 73), Mikel (Iwobi 59), Musa, Ighalo.

Jun 30 - Cairo
Burundi 0
Guinea 2 (M Yattara 25, 52)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 5,753. **Ref:** El Jaafari (Mor)
Burundi: J Nahimana - Nizigiyimana, Ngandu, Nsabiyumva, Nduwarugira, Bigirimana, Kwizera, Shabani, Mustafa (Duhayindavyi 16), M Amissi (C Amissi 57), Abdul Razak (Berahino 68).
Sent off: Nduwarugira12.
Guinea: Kone - Dyrestam, Seka, Falette, Issiaga Sylla, Cisse, Diawara, M Yattara (Kante 79), Kamano (Bangoura 63), Traore, Kaba (M Camara 85).

AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS – GROUP B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Madagascar (Q)	3	2	1	0	5	2	7
Nigeria (Q)	3	2	0	1	2	2	6
Guinea (Q)	3	1	1	1	4	3	4
Burundi	3	0	0	3	0	4	0

Group C

Jun 23 - Cairo
Senegal 2 (Balde 28, Diatta 64)
Tanzania 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 7,249. **Ref:** Selmi (Tun)
Senegal: Mendy - Wague, Sane (Kouyate 24), Koulibaly, Sabaly, B N'Diaye, I Sarr, Diatta, Gueye, Balde (Thioub 73), Niang (Konate 83).
Tanzania: Manula - Kessy, Mwantika, Yondan, Michael, Yahya (Domayo 84), Salum (Mussa 44), Mao, Msuva (Ulimwengu 66), Bocco, Samatta.

Jun 23 - Cairo
Algeria 2 (Bounedjah pen 34, Mahrez 43)
Kenya 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 8,071. **Ref:** Keita (Mli)
Algeria: M'Bolhi - Atal, Mandi, Benlamri, Bensebaini, Guedioura (Abeid 71), Mahrez, Feghouli, Bennacer, Belaili (Brahimi 74), Bounedjah (Delort 81).
Kenya: Matasi - Otieno, Okumu, Mohammed, Omar, Wanyama, Odhiambo (Athuman 89), Omondi (Omolo 72), Kahata (Ouma 46), Masika, Olunga.

Jun 27 - Cairo
Senegal 0
Algeria 1 (Belaili 49)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 25,765. **Ref:** Sikazwe (Zam)
Senegal: Mendy - Wague, Kouyate, Koulibaly, Sabaly, A N'Diaye (Saivet 87), Balde (Thioub 63), Diatta (Diagne 73), B N'Diaye, Mane, Niang.
Algeria: M'Bolhi - Atal, Mandi, Benlamri, Bensebaini (Fares 80), Guedioura, Mahrez, Feghouli, Bennacer (Abeid 90+2), Belaili (Delort 86), Bounedjah.

Jun 27 - Cairo
Kenya 3 (Olunga 39, 80, Omolo 62)
Tanzania 2 (Msuva 6, Samatta 40)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 7,233. **Ref:** Heeralall (Mrs)
Kenya: Matasi - Owino (Oginga 46), Mohammed, Okumu, Omar (Omondi 68), Wanyama, Omolo, Masika, Kahata (Avire 33), Ouma, Olunga.
Tanzania: Manula - Kessy, Mwantika, Yondan, Michael, Ulimwengu (Bocco 70), Nyoni (Domayo 80), Yahya (Mao 52), Mussa, Samatta, Msuva.

Jul1 - Cairo
Kenya 0
Senegal 3 (I Sarr 63, Mane 71, pen 78)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 13,224. **Ref:** Grisha (Egy)
Kenya: Matasi - Otieno, Mohammed, Okumu, Omar, Masika (Oginga 81), Omolo, Wanyama, Odhiambo (Avire 75), Ouma, Olunga.
Sent off: Otieno 76.
Senegal: Gomis - Gassama, Kouyate, Koulibaly, Ciss, B N'Diaye, Gueye (Diatta 80), I Sarr, Saivet, Mane, Niang (Konate 75).

Jul1 - Cairo
Tanzania 0
Algeria 3 (Slimani 35, Ounas 39, 45+1)
HT: 0-3. **Att:** 8,921. **Ref:** Rakotojaona (Mad)
Tanzania: Mnata - Kessy, Mwantika (Mao 52), Mtoni, Husseini, Msuva, Yahya, Nyoni, Mussa (Yussuf 46), Salum (Bocco 85), Samatta.
Algeria: M'Bolhi - Zeffane, Tahrat, Halliche, Fares, Boudaoui, Abeid (Bounedjah 79), Bennacer (Guedioura 57), Ounas (Mahrez 74), Slimani, Delort.

AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS – GROUP C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Algeria (Q)	3	3	0	0	6	0	9
Senegal (Q)	3	2	0	1	5	1	6
Kenya	3	1	0	2	3	7	3
Tanzania	3	0	0	3	2	8	0

Group D

Jun 23 - Cairo
Morocco 1 (Keimuine og 89)
Namibia 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 6,857. **Ref:** Hakizimana (Rwa)
Morocco: Bounou - Dirar, Benatia, Saiss, Hakimi, Bourabia (Boufal 58), Ait Bennasser (El Ahmadi 70), Ziyech, Boussoufa, Amrabat, En-Nesyri (Boutaib 78).
Namibia: Kazapua - Horaeb, Nyambe, Haoseb, Hanamub, Shitembi, Ketjijere, Starke (Papama 64), Hotto (Stephanus 87), Iimbondi (Keimuine 80), Shalulile.

Jun 24 - Cairo
Ivory Coast 1 (Kodjia 64)
South Africa 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 4,961. **Ref:** Ghorbal (Alg)
Ivory Coast: Gbohouo - Aurier, Traore, Kanon, Coulibaly (Doumbia 87), Serey Die, Kessie, Pepe, Seri (Zaha 69), Gradel (Cornet 87), Kodjia.
South Africa: Williams - Mkhize, Hlatshwayo, Mkhwanazi, Hlanti, Maboe (Vilakazi 75), Furman, Mokotjo, Zwane, Mothiba (Veldwijk 82), Tau.

Jun 28 - Cairo
Morocco 1 (En-Nesyri 23)
Ivory Coast 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 27,500. **Ref:** Alioum (Cam)
Morocco: Bounou - Dirar, Benatia, Saiss, Hakimi, Boussoufa (Da Costa 90+3), El Ahmadi, Belhanda, Ziyech (Boufal 75), En-Nesyri, Amrabat (Mazraoui 82).
Ivory Coast: Gbohouo - Aurier (Bagayoko 69), Traore, Kanon, Coulibaly, Serey Die, Kessie, Pepe, Seri (Bony 63), Gradel (Cornet 55), Kodjia.

Jun 28 - Cairo
South Africa 1 (Zungu 68)
Namibia 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 16,090. **Ref:** Sy (Sen)
South Africa: Keet - Mkhize (Mphahlele 67), Hlatshwayo, Mkhwanazi, Hlanti, Tau, Kekana, Zungu (Mokotjo 84), Zwane, Vilakazi (Veldwijk 86), Mothiba.
Namibia: Kazapua - Horaeb, Nyambe, Haoseb, Hanamub, Shitembi, Ketjijere, Starke (Kamatuka 76), Hotto, Shalulile, Shilongo (Gurirab 46).

Jul1 - Cairo
South Africa 0
Morocco 1 (Boussoufa 90)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,098. **Ref:** Ngambo (DRC)
South Africa: Williams - Mkhize, Hlatshwayo, Mkhwanazi, Hlanti, Serero, Mokotjo, Zungu (Kekana 81), Tau, Mothiba (Veldwijk 73), Zwane (Vilakazi 75).
Morocco: El Kajoui - Mazraoui (Dirar 75), Da Costa, Saiss, Hakimi, El Ahmadi (Ait Bennasser 54), Boussoufa, Ziyech (Fajr 89), Belhanda, Amrabat, En-Nesyri.

Jul1 - Cairo
Namibia 1 (Kamatuka 71)
Ivory Coast 4 (Gradel 39, Serey Die 58, Zaha 84, Cornet 89)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 7,530. **Ref:** Waweru (Ken)
Namibia: Kazapua - Horaeb, Nyambe, Haoseb, Hanamub, Shitembi, Ketjijere, Papama (Stephanus 62), Hotto, Shalulile (Shilongo 83), Kamatuka (Gurirab 73).
Ivory Coast: Gbohouo - Bagayoko, Traore, Kanon, Coulibaly, Serey Die, Kessie, Gradel (Cornet 68), Gbamin (I Sangare 80), Zaha, Bony (Kodjia 85).

AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS – GROUP D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Morocco (Q)	3	3	0	0	3	0	9
Ivory Coast (Q)	3	2	0	1	5	2	6
South Africa (Q)	3	1	0	2	1	2	3
Namibia	3	0	0	3	1	6	0

Group E

Jun 24 - Suez
Tunisia 1 (Msakni pen 34)
Angola 1 (Djalma 73)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 7,345. **Ref:** Tessema Weyesa (Eth)
Tunisia: Ben Mustapha - Bedoui, Bronn, Meriah, Haddadi, Kechrida, Chaalali (Sassi 69), Skhiri, Sliti (Badri 79), Khazri, Msakni.
Angola: Tony Cabaca - Bruno Gaspar, Dany Masunguna, Bastos, Paizo, Herenilson, Stelvio (Geraldo 46), Wilson Eduardo (Gelson 46), Fredy, Djalma, Mateus (Jose Macaia 87).

Jun 24 - Suez
Mali 4 (Diaby 37, Marega pen 45, Adama Traore/M 55, Adama Traore/F 74)
Mauritania 1 (El Hacen pen 72)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 6,202. **Ref:** Ngambo (DRC)
Mali: D Diarra - H Traore, Wague, Fofana, Kone, Samassekou, L Coulibaly, Diaby (A Haidara 87), Adama Traore/M (Adama Traore/F 61), Djenepo (Doumbia 61), Marega.
Mauritania: Brahim - Sy (M Diaw 53), N'Diaye, Abdoul Ba, Abeid, Coulibaly (Bessam 46), Yaly, Camara (Gaye 82), El Hacen, Diakhite, Adama Ba.

Jun 28 - Suez
Tunisia 1 (Khazri 70)
Mali 1 (Samassekou 60)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 16,085. **Ref:** Bondo (Bot)
Tunisia: Hassen - Kechrida, Bronn, Meriah, Haddadi, Skhiri, Chaalali, Badri (Msakni 62), Khazri, Sliti (Ben Mohamed 84), Khenissi (Chaouat 70).
Mali: D Diarra - H Traore, Wague, Fofana, Kone, Samassekou, Diaby (Adama Traore/F 80), L Coulibaly, A Haidara (Adama Traore/M 86), Djenepo (Doumbia 75), Marega.

Jun 29 - Suez
Mauritania 0
Angola 0
Att: 10,120. **Ref:** El Din (Egy)
Mauritania: Brahim - M Diaw, N'Diaye, Abdoul Ba (Diarra 62), Abeid, Yaly, Camara (Gaye 70), Diakhite, El Hacen, Bessam, Adama Ba.
Angola: Tony Cabaca - Bruno Gaspar, Dany Masunguna, Bastos, Paizo, Herenilson, Show, Mateus (Wilson Eduardo 56), Fredy (Geraldo 56), Djalma (Mabululu 78), Gelson.

Jul 2 - Ismailia
Angola 0
Mali 1 (A Haidara 37)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 8,135. **Ref:** Jiyed (Mor)
Angola: Tony Cabaca - Bruno Gaspar, Dany Masunguna, Bastos, Paizo, Fredy (Show 53), Herenilson, Geraldo (Mabululu 81), Djalma, Mateus (Wilson Eduardo 52), Gelson.
Mali: D Diarra - Sacko, Kouyate, Wague, M Haidara, A Haidara (Doucoure 73), L Coulibaly, Adama Traore/F (Marega 81), Adama Traore/M, Doumbia (Koita 58), K Coulibaly.

Jul 2 - Suez
Mauritania 0
Tunisia 0
Att: 7,732. **Ref:** Hakizimana (Rwa)
Mauritania: Brahim - M Diaw, N'Diaye, Abdoul Ba (Diarra 17; Guidileye 61), Abeid, Coulibaly, Yaly, El Hacen, Diakhite, Adama Ba, Bessam (Anne 87).
Tunisia: Hassen - Kechrida, Bronn, Meriah, Haddadi, Aouadhi, Skhiri, Srarfi (Khenissi 46), Sliti (Drager 79), Msakni, Khazri.

AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS – GROUP E

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mali (Q)	3	2	1	0	6	2	7
Tunisia (Q)	3	0	3	0	2	2	3
Angola	3	0	2	1	1	2	2
Mauritania	3	0	2	1	1	4	2

Group F

Jun 25 - Ismailia
Cameroon 2 (Yaya 66, Bahoken 69)
Guinea-Bissau 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 5,983. **Ref:** El Jaafari (Mor)
Cameroon: Onana - Dawa, Yaya, Ngadeu, Oyongo, Zambo Anguissa, Mandjeck, Djoum (Bahoken 67), Bassogog, Choupo-Moting (Boumal 79), Toko Ekambi (N'Jie 67).
Guinea-Bissau: Jonas Mendes - Nadjack, Rudinilson Silva, Juary, Mamadu Cande, Zezinho, Sori Mane, Pele, Toni Silva (M Balde 71), Frederic Mendy (Joseph Mendes 81), Piqueti (Jorginho 76).

Jun 25 - Ismailia
Ghana 2 (A Ayew 9, J Ayew 42)
Benin 2 (Pote 2, 63)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 8,094. **Ref:** Essrayri (Tun)
Ghana: Ofori - Yiadom, Nuhu, Boye, Agbenyenu, Partey, Wakaso, Atsu, A Ayew (Acquah 90), Agyepong (Owusu 36; Mensah 59), J Ayew. *Sent off: Boye 55.*
Benin: Farnolle - Baraze, Adilehou (Seibou 62), Adenon, Verdon, Imorou, Pote, D'Almeida (Dossou 62), Adeoti, Soukou (Djigla 83), Mounie.

Jun 29 - Ismailia
Cameroon 0
Ghana 0
Att: 16,724. **Ref:** Tessema Weyesa (Eth)
Cameroon: Onana - Kana-Biyik, Ngadeu, Bong (Choupo-Moting 74), Fai, Mandjeck, Zambo Anguissa (Kunde 82), Oyongo, Bassogog, Toko Ekambi (Bahoken 74), N'Jie.
Ghana: Ofori - Yiadom, Mensah, Nuhu, Rahman, Partey, Wakaso, Atsu (Owusu 15), A Ayew (Kwabena 87), Asamoah (Gyan 78), J Ayew.

Jun 29 - Ismailia
Benin 0
Guinea-Bissau 0
Att: 9,212. **Ref:** Ndabihawenimana (Brd)
Benin: Farnolle - Baraze, Adenon, Verdon, Imorou, Adeoti, Pote (Djigla 90), D'Almeida (Seibou 65), Sessegnon, Soukou (Dossou 64), Mounie.
Guinea-Bissau: Jonas Mendes - Nanu, Juary, Marcelo, Mamadu Cande, Bura, Sori Mane, M Balde (Jorginho 86), Pele (Joao Jaquite 70), Piqueti (R Balde 90+2), Frederic Mendy.

Jul 2 - Ismailia
Benin 0
Cameroon 0
Att: 14,120. **Ref:** Selmi (Tun)
Benin: Allagbe - Baraze, Adenon, Verdon, Kiki, Adeoti, Dossou (Soukou 69), Sessegnon, Seibou, Djigla (Pote 76), Mounie.
Cameroon: Onana - Fai (N'Jie 46), Ngadeu, Yaya, Oyongo, Zambo Anguissa, Kunde, Djoum (Boumal 66), Choupo-Moting, Bahoken, Toko Ekambi (Bassogog 83).

Jul 2 - Suez
Guinea-Bissau 0
Ghana 2 (J Ayew 46, Partey 72)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 6,905. **Ref:** Otogo-Castane (Gab)
Guinea-Bissau: Jonas Mendes - Nanu, Juary, Marcelo, Mamadu Cande, M Balde, Bura (Moreto Cassama 64), Sori Mane, Piqueti (Toni Silva 68), Pele, Joseph Mendes (Frederic Mendy 79).
Ghana: Ofori - Yiadom, Aidoo, Boye, Rahman, Owusu (Asamoah 86), Partey (Ekuban 83), Wakaso, Kwabena (Acquah 66), A Ayew, J Ayew.

AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS – GROUP F

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ghana (Q)	3	1	2	0	4	2	5
Cameroon (Q)	3	1	2	0	2	0	5
Benin (Q)	3	0	3	0	2	2	3
Guinea-Bissau	3	0	1	2	0	4	1

● *The top 2 in each group and the 4 3rd-placed teams with the best record qualified for the round of16*

Round of 16

Jul 5 - Cairo
Morocco 1 (En-Nesyri 76)
Benin 1 (Adilehou 53)
Aet. Benin 4-1 on pens
HT: 0-0. **90mins:** 1-1. **Att:** 7,500.
Ref: Martins de Carvalho (Ang)
Morocco: Bounou - Dirar (Mazraoui 74), Da Costa, Saiss, Hakimi, Boussoufa, El Ahmadi (Fajr 107), Belhanda (Boufal 59), Ziyech, En-Nesyri, Amrabat (Idrissi 88).
Benin: Allagbe - Seibou, Adilehou, Adenon, Verdon, Imorou, Soukou (Djigla 69), Adeoti, Sessegnon, Dossou (Anaane 87), Pote (D'Almeida 108). *Sent off: Adenon 97.*

Jul 5 - Cairo
Uganda 0
Senegal 1 (Mane 15)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 6,950. **Ref:** Ghorbal (Alg)
Uganda: Onyango - Mugabi, Juuko, Wasswa (Awany 18), Walusimbi, Abdu, Azira, Aucho (Kateregga 77), Okwi, Miya, Kaddu (Kyambadde 57).
Senegal: Gomis - Gassama, Kouyate, Koulibaly, Sabaly, B N'Diaye, Gueye, I Sarr (Balde 81), Saivet (Diatta 69), Mane, Niang (Diagne 85).

Jul 6 - Alexandria
Nigeria 3 (Ighalo 19, 63, Iwobi 66)
Cameroon 2 (Bahoken 41, N'Jie 44)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Bondo (Bot)
Nigeria: Akpeyi - Awaziem, Troost-Ekong, Omeruo, Aina, Etebo, Ndidi, Simon (Chukwueze 61), Iwobi (Balogun 90+1), Musa, Ighalo (Onuachu 85).
Cameroon: Onana - Fai, Yaya, Ngadeu, Oyongo, Kunde (Zoua 87), Mandjeck (Zambo Anguissa 62), Bassogog, Choupo-Moting, N'Jie (Toko Ekambi 70), Bahoken.

Jul 6 - Cairo
Egypt 0
South Africa 1 (Lorch 85)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 75,000. **Ref:** Otogo-Castane (Gab)
Egypt: M El Shenawy - A Elmohamady, Alaa, Hegazi, Ashraf, Hamed, Elneny (Soliman 83), Salah, Said (Warda 64), Trezeguet, M Mohsen (Ali 46).
South Africa: Williams - Mkhize, Hlatshwayo, Mkhwanazi, Hlanti, Zungu, Furman (Kekana 90+2), Mokotjo, Tau, Mothiba, Lorch (Veldwijk 90+3).

Jul 7 - Alexandria
Madagascar 2 (Amada 9, Andriatsima 77)
DR Congo 2 (Bakambu 21, Mbemba 90)
Aet. Madagascar 4-2 on pens
HT: 1-1. **90mins:** 2-2. **Att:** 5,890.
Ref: El Jaafari (Mor)
Madagascar: Adrien - Metanire, Razakanantenaina, Fontaine, Mombris, Raveloson (Andrianarimanana 58), Andrianantenaina, Amada, Nomenjanahary (Caloin 89), Andriatsima (Rakotoharimalala 112), Andriamatsinoro (Morel 106).
DR Congo: Matampi - Mpeko, Mbemba, Tisserand, Ngonda, Akolo (Bolasie 70), Moke Abro (Elia 46), Mulumbu (Bokadi 67), Maghoma, Assombalonga (M'Poku 90), Bakambu.

Jul 7 - Cairo
Algeria 3 (Belaili 24, Mahrez 57, Ounas 82)
Guinea 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 8,205. **Ref:** Camille (Sey)
Algeria: M'Bolhi - Atal, Mandi, Benlamri, Bensebaini, Guedioura (Boudaoui 82), Mahrez, Feghouli, Bennacer, Belaili (Ounas 77), Bounedjah (Delort 84).
Guinea: Kone - Dyrestam, Seka, Falette, Issiaga Sylla, Cisse (Bangoura 68), Diawara, Traore, M Camara, M Yattara (Kamano 79), Kante (Koita 56).

Jul 8 - Suez
Mali 0
Ivory Coast 1 (Zaha 76)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 7,672. **Ref:** Sikazwe (Zam)
Mali: D Diarra - H Traore, Wague, Fofana, Kone, Samassekou, Diaby (Adama Traore/F 53), A Haidara (Adama Traore/M 63), L Coulibaly (K Coulibaly 80), Djenepo, Marega.
Ivory Coast: Gbohouo - Bagayoko, Traore, Kanon, Coulibaly, Kessie, Serey Die, Gbamin, Pepe (Cornet 68), Kodjia (Bony 85), Zaha.

Jul 8 - Ismailia
Ghana 1 (Bedoui og 90+2)
Tunisia 1 (Khenissi 73)
Aet. Tunisia 5-4 on pens
HT: 0-0. **90mins:** 1-1. **Att:** 8,890. **Ref:** Gomes (SAf)
Ghana: Ofori - Yiadom, Nuhu, Boye, Rahman (Agbenyenu 117), Acquah (Ekuban 75), Wakaso, Owusu (Kwabena 108), Partey, A Ayew (Gyan 84), J Ayew.
Tunisia: Hassen (Ben Mustapha 120+1) - Kechrida, Bronn, Meriah, Haddadi, Chaalali, Skhiri, Sassi, Badri (Khazri 68), Khenissi (Bedoui 90), Msakni (Sliti 83).

Quarter-finals

Jul10 - Cairo
Senegal 1 (Gueye 70)
Benin 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 5,798. **Ref:** Ghorbal (Alg)
Senegal: Gomis - Gassama, Kouyate, Koulibaly, Sabaly, Saivet, B N'Diaye, Gueye (Sane 89), Mane, Niang (Diagne 64), Balde (Diatta 65).
Benin: Allagbe - Baraze, Adilehou, Verdon, Imorou, Adeoti, Soukou (Djigla 81), D'Almeida (Seibou 69), Sessegnon, Pote (Dossou 77), Mounie. *Sent off: Verdon 83.*

Jul10 - Cairo
Nigeria 2 (Chukwueze 27, Troost-Ekong 89)
South Africa 1 (Zungu 71)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 48,343. **Ref:** Jiyed (Mor)
Nigeria: Akpeyi - Awaziem, Troost-Ekong, Omeruo, Collins, Etebo, Ndidi, Chukwueze, Iwobi (Balogun 90+2), Musa (Simon 81), Ighalo.
South Africa: Williams - Mkhize, Hlatshwayo, Mkhwanazi, Hlanti, Zungu, Furman, Mokotjo, Tau, Mothiba (Veldwijk 86), Lorch (Zwane 58).

Jul11 - Suez
Ivory Coast 1 (Kodjia 62)
Algeria 1 (Feghouli 20)
Aet. Algeria 4-3 on pens
HT: 0-1. **90mins:** 1-1. **Att:** 8,233.
Ref: Tessema Weyesa (Eth)
Ivory Coast: Gbohouo - Bagayoko, Traore, Kanon (Comara 54), Coulibaly, I Sangare (Gbamin 78), Serey Die, Kessie, Zaha (Cornet 94), Kodjia (Bony 96), Gradel.
Algeria: M'Bolhi - Atal (Zeffane 30), Mandi, Benlamri, Bensebaini, Guedioura, Mahrez (Ounas 86), Feghouli (Delort 120+1), Bennacer, Belaili, Bounedjah (Slimani 78).

Jul11 - Cairo
Madagascar 0
Tunisia 3 (Sassi 52, Msakni 60, Sliti 90+3)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 7,568. **Ref:** Alioum (Cam)
Madagascar: Adrien - Metanire, Razakanantenaina (Morel 66), Fontaine, Mombris, Ilaimaharitra (Rakotoharimalala 77), Andrianantenaina, Amada, Nomenjanahary (Voavy 66), Andriatsima, Andriamatsinoro.
Tunisia: Hassen - Kechrida, Bronn, Meriah, Haddadi, Chaalali (Drager 75), Skhiri, Sassi (Aouadhi 83), Khazri, Khenissi, Msakni (Sliti 66).

Semi-finals

Jul14 - Cairo
Senegal 1 (Bronn og 101)
Tunisia 0
Aet. **HT:** 0-0. **90mins:** 0-0. **Att:** 9,143.
Ref: Tessema Weyesa (Eth)
Senegal: Gomis - Gassama (Wague 110), Kouyate, Koulibaly, Sabaly, B N'Diaye (Sane 81), Saivet, Diatta (I Sarr 68), Gueye, Mane, Niang (Diagne 64).
Tunisia: Hassen - Drager, Bronn, Meriah, Haddadi, Sassi (Badri 105), Skhiri, Ben Mohamed (Chaalali 82), Khazri, Khenissi (Chaouat 117), Msakni (Sliti 46).

Jul14 - Cairo
Algeria 2 (Troost-Ekong og 40, Mahrez 90+5)
Nigeria 1 (Ighalo pen 72)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 49,775. **Ref:** Gassama (Gam)
Algeria: M'Bolhi - Zeffane, Mandi, Benlamri, Bensebaini, Guedioura, Mahrez, Feghouli, Bennacer, Belaili, Bounedjah.
Nigeria: Akpeyi - Awaziem, Troost-Ekong, Omeruo, Collins, Etebo, Ndidi, Chukwueze (Onyekuru 78), Iwobi, Musa, Ighalo.

3rd-place match

Jul17 - Cairo
Tunisia 0
Nigeria 1 (Ighalo 3)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 6,340. **Ref:** Grisha (Egy)
Tunisia: Ben Cherifia - Drager, Hnid (Bedoui 67), Meriah, Haddadi, Chaalali, Skhiri, Sassi, Badri (Sliti 58), Khenissi (Chaouat 44), Khazri.
Nigeria: Uzoho - Aina, Troost-Ekong, Omeruo, Collins, Ndidi, Etebo, Chukwueze (Kalu 90), Iwobi, Musa (Simon 75), Ighalo (Osimhen 46).

Final

Jul19 - Cairo
Senegal 0
Algeria 1 (Bounedjah 2)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Alioum (Cam)
Senegal: Gomis - Gassama, Kouyate, Sane, Sabaly, B N'Diaye (Diatta 59), Gueye, I Sarr, Mane, Saivet (Diagne 75), Niang (Balde 85).
Algeria: M'Bolhi - Zeffane, Mandi, Benlamri, Bensebaini, Guedioura, Mahrez, Feghouli (Tahrat 85), Bennacer, Belaili (Brahimi 84), Bounedjah (Slimani 89).

INTERCONTINENTAL CUP

Played in Ahmedabad, India

Group stage

Jul 7
India 2 (Chhetri pen 4, 41)
Tajikistan 4 (Tursunov 56, Boboev 58, Rakhimov 71, Samiev 75)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 7,293. **Ref:** Mukhtarov (Uzb)

Jul 8
Syria 5 (S Al Hamwi 41, 61, Marmour 56, 65, Al Khatib 90)
North Korea 2 (Jong Il-gwan 3, Ri Il-jin 78)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Ramachandran (Ind)

Jul10
Tajikistan 2 (Tursunov 46, I Barotov 67)
Syria 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 732. **Ref:** Gupta (Ind)

Jul13
India 2 (Chhangte 51, Chhetri 71)
North Korea 5 (Jong Il-gwan 8, 29, Sim Hyon-jin 16, Ri Un-chol 63, Ri Hyong-jin 90+2)
HT: 0-3. **Att:** 9,590. **Ref**: Riskullaev (Uzb)

Jul15
North Korea 1 (Ri Hyong-jin 33)
Tajikistan 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 634. **Ref:** Ramachandran (Ind)

Jul16
India 1 (Gahlot 51)
Syria 1 (Al Khatib pen 78)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Mukhtarov (Uzb)

INTERCONTINENTAL CUP – GROUP STAGE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tajikistan (Q)	3	2	0	1	6	3	6
North Korea (Q)	3	2	0	1	8	7	6
Syria	3	1	1	1	6	5	4
India	3	0	1	2	5	10	1

● *The top 2 qualified for the Final*

Final

Jul19
Tajikistan 0
North Korea 1 (Pak Hyon-il 71)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 1,832. **Ref:** Riskullaev (Uzb)

PACIFIC GAMES FOOTBALL TNMT

Played in Apia, Samoa

Group A

Jul 8: Tonga 0 New Zealand U-23 13; Samoa 0 Papua New Guinea 6.
Jul 10: New Zealand U-23 5 Samoa 1; Papua New Guinea 2 Vanuatu 0.
Jul 12: Vanuatu 0 New Zealand U-23 0; Samoa 2 Tonga 0.
Jul 15: Tonga 0 Vanuatu 14; New Zealand U-23 2 Papua New Guinea 0.
Jul 18: Papua New Guinea 8 Tonga 0; Vanuatu 11 Samoa 0.

PACIFIC GAMES FOOTBALL TNMT – GROUP A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NZ U-23 (QF)	4	3	1	0	20	1	10
Papua NG (QB)	4	3	0	1	16	2	9
Vanuatu	4	2	1	1	25	2	7
Samoa	4	1	0	3	3	22	3
Tonga	4	0	0	4	0	37	0

Group B

Jul 8: American Samoa 0 New Caledonia 5; Tuvalu 0 Solomon Islands 13; Tahiti 1 Fiji 2.
Jul 10: Tuvalu 0 Tahiti 7; American Samoa 0 Fiji 9; Solomon Islands 0 New Caledonia 2.
Jul 12: American Samoa 1 Tuvalu 1; Solomon Islands 0 Tahiti 3; New Caledonia 1 Fiji 0.
Jul 15: Fiji 10 Tuvalu 1; Solomon Islands 13 American Samoa 0; Tahiti 0 New Caledonia 3.
Jul 18: New Caledonia 11 Tuvalu 0; Tahiti 8 American Samoa 1; Fiji 4 Solomon Islands 4.

PACIFIC GAMES FOOTBALL TNMT – GROUP B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
N Caled'ia (QF)	5	5	0	0	22	0	15
Fiji (QB)	5	3	1	1	25	7	10
Tahiti	5	3	0	2	19	6	9
Solomon Is	5	2	1	2	30	9	7
Am Samoa	5	0	1	4	2	36	1
Tuvalu	5	0	1	4	2	42	1

● *The group winners qualified for the Final; the runners-up went into the bronze-medal match*

Bronze-medal match

Jul 20: Papua New Guinea 1 Fiji 1 (Fiji 4-2 on pens).

Final

Jul 20
New Zealand U-23 2 (Schnell 86, Jones 90+4)
New Caledonia 1 (Sele 55)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 1,200. **Ref:** Yareboinen (PNG)

2022 WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS[1]

ASIA SECTION

2nd round draw

Gp A China, Guam, Maldives, Philippines, Syria
Gp B Australia, Jordan, Kuwait, Nepal, Taiwan
Gp C Bahrain, Cambodia, Hong Kong, Iran, Iraq
Gp D Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Uzbekistan, Yemen
Gp E Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Oman, Qatar
Gp F Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Myanmar, Tajikistan
Gp G Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam
Gp H Lebanon, North Korea, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Turkmenistan
Matchdays: *Sep 5, Sep10, Oct10, Oct15, Nov14, Nov19 (2019), Mar 26, Mar 31, Jun 4, Jun 9 (2020)*

● *The 8 group winners and the 4 runners-up with the best record will qualify for the 3rd round. Qatar are participating in this stage of the qualifiers even though, as 2022 World Cup hosts, they have an automatic place in the finals; if they win their group or finish as one of the 4 runners-up with the best record, the place they would have taken in the next round of qualifiers will go to the runner-up with the 5th best record*
[1]These qualifiers double as the 2nd round of qualifiers for the 2023 Asian Cup – the 8 group winners and the 4 runners-up with the best record will qualify for the 24-team 2023 Asian Cup finals; the remaining countries will enter further qualifiers for the remaining12 places at the 2023 Asian Cup finals

2021 AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS QUALS

Draw

Preliminary round

Djibouti v Gambia; Liberia v Chad; Mauritius v Sao Tome e Principe; South Sudan v Seychelles
1st legs - Oct 7; 2nd legs - Oct15 (2019)
● *The winners qualify for the group stage*

Group stage

Gp A Guinea, Mali, Namibia, *Liberia OR Chad*
Gp B Burkina Faso, Malawi, Uganda, *South Sudan OR Seychelles*
Gp C Ghana, South Africa, Sudan, *Mauritius OR Sao Tome e Principe*
Gp D Angola, DR Congo, Gabon, *Djibouti OR Gambia*
Gp E Burundi, Central African Republic, Mauritania, Morocco
Gp F Cameroon, Cape Verde Islands, Mozambique, Rwanda
Gp G Comoros Islands, Egypt, Kenya, Togo
Gp H Algeria, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Gp I Congo, Eswatini, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal
Gp J Equatorial Guinea, Libya, Tanzania, Tunisia
Gp K Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Niger
Gp L Benin, Lesotho, Nigeria, Sierra Leone
Matchdays: *Nov11-19, 2019 (x2); Aug 31-Sep 8, 2020 (x2); Oct 5-13, 2020; Nov 9-17, 2020*

● *The top 2 in each group will qualify for the 24-team finals*

Club football

EUROPE

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Preliminary round

Played in Pristina, Kosovo

Semi-finals

Jun 25: Feronikeli (Kos) 1 Lincoln Red Imps (Gib) 0; Tre Penne (SaM) 0 FC Santa Coloma (And) 1.

Final

Jun 28: Feronikeli 2 FC Santa Coloma 1.
Feronikeli qualified for the1st qualifying round (the 3 other participating teams enter the Europa League in the 2nd qualifying round)

1st qualifying round

1st legs - Jul 9/10; 2nd legs - Jul16/17

Ararat-Armenia (Arm) v AIK (Swe) 2-1, 1-3 (agg 3-4); Astana (Kaz) v CFR Cluj (Rom) 1-0, 1-3 (agg 2-3); BATE Borisov (Bls) v Piast Gliwice (Pol) 1-1, 2-1 (agg 3-2); Dundalk (RoI) v Riga FC (Lat) 0-0, 0-0 (aet) (agg 0-0, Dundalk 5-4 on pens); F91 Dudelange (Lux) v Valletta (Mlt) 2-2, 1-1 (agg 3-3, Valletta on away goals); Ferencvaros (Hun) v Ludogorets (Bul) 2-1, 3-2 (agg 5-3); HJK Helsinki (Fin) v HB (Far) 3-0, 2-2 (agg 5-2); Linfield (NIr) v Rosenborg (Nor) 0-2, 0-4 (agg 0-6); Nomme Kalju (Est) v Shkendija (NMa) 0-1, 2-1 (agg 2-2, Nomme Kalju on away goals); Partizani (Alb) v Qarabag (Aze) 0-0, 0-2 (agg 0-2); Sarajevo (Bos) v Celtic (Sco) 1-3, 1-2 (agg 2-5); Sheriff (Mol) v Saburtalo (Geo) 0-3, 3-1 (agg 3-4); Slovan Bratislava (Slk) v Sutjeska (Mne) 1-1, 1-1 (aet) (agg 2-2, Sutjeska 3-2 on pens); Suduva (Lit) v Red Star Belgrade (Ser) 0-0, 1-2 (agg 1-2); The New Saints (Wal) v Feronikeli 2-2, 1-0 (agg 3-2); Valur (Ice) v Maribor (Sln) 0-3, 0-2 (agg 0-5)

● *Losing teams enter the Europa League in the 2nd qualifying round (except Sarajevo, who were drawn to receive the one bye into the Europa League 3rd qualifying round)*

EUROPA LEAGUE

Preliminary round

1st legs - Jun 27; 2nd legs - Jul 2/4

Ballymena United (NIr) v NSI (Far) 2-0, 0-0 (agg 2-0); Barry Town United (Wal) v Cliftonville (NIr) 0-0, 0-4 (agg 0-4); KI (Far) v Tre Fiori (SaM) 5-1, 4-0 (agg 9-1); La Fiorita (SaM) v Engordany (And) 0-1, 1-2 (agg 1-3); Prishtina (Kos) v St Joseph's (Gib) 1-1, 0-2 (agg 1-3); Progres Niederkorn (Lux) v Cardiff Metropolitan University (Wal) 1-0, 1-2 (agg 2-2, Progres Niederkorn on away goals); Sant Julia (And) v Europa (Gib) 3-2, 0-4 (agg 3-6)

1st qualifying round

1st legs - Jul 9-11; 2nd legs - Jul16-18

Aberdeen (Sco) v RoPS (Fin) 2-1, 2-1 (agg 4-2); AEK Larnaca (Cyp) v Petrocub (Mol) 1-0, 1-0 (agg 2-0); Akademija Pandev (NMa) v Zrinjski (Bos) 0-3, 0-3 (agg 0-6); Alashkert (Arm) v Makedonija (NMa) 3-1, 3-0 (agg 6-1); Balzan (Mlt) v Domzale (Sln) 3-4, 0-1 (agg 3-5); Brann (Nor) v Shamrock Rovers (RoI) 2-2, 1-2 (agg 3-4); Breidablik (Ice) v Vaduz (Lie) 0-0, 1-2 (agg 1-2); Brondby (Den) v Inter Turku (Fin) 4-1, 0-2 (agg 4-3); Cliftonville v Haugesund (Nor) 0-1, 1-5 (agg 1-6); Connah's Quay Nomads (Wal) v Kilmarnock (Sco) 1-2, 2-0 (agg 3-2); Cork City (RoI) v Progres Niederkorn 0-2, 2-1 (agg 2-3); Crusaders (NIr) v B36 (Far) 2-0, 3-2 (agg 5-2); CSKA Sofia (Bul) v OFK Titograd (Mne) 4-0, 0-0 (agg 4-0); Cukaricki (Ser) v Banants (Arm) 3-0, 5-0 (agg 8-0); Debrecen (Hun) v Kukesi (Alb) 3-0, 1-1 (agg 4-1); Dinamo Tbilisi (Geo) v Engordany 6-0, 1-0 (agg 7-0); Dunajska Streda (Slk) v Cracovia (Pol) 1-1, 2-2 (agg 3-3, Dunajska Streda on away goals); Europa v Legia Warsaw (Pol) 0-0, 0-3 (agg 0-3); FCSB (Rom) v Milsami (Mol) 2-0, 2-1 (agg 4-1); Flora Tallinn (Est) v Radnicki Nis (Ser) 2-0, 2-2 (agg 4-2); Fola Esch (Lux) v Chikhura (Geo) 1-2, 1-2 (agg 2-4); Gzira United (Mlt) v Hajduk Split (Cro) 0-2, 3-1 (agg 3-3, Gzira United on away goals); Honved (Hun) v Zalgiris (Lit) 3-1, 1-1 (agg 4-2); Jeunesse Esch (Lux) v Tobol (Kaz) 0-0, 1-1 (agg 1-1, Jeunesse Esch on away goals); Kauno Zalgiris (Lit) v Apollon (Cyp) 0-2, 0-4 (agg 0-6); KuPS (Fin) v Vitebsk (Bls) 2-0, 1-1 (agg 3-1); Laci (Alb) v Hapoel Beer Sheva (Isr) 1-1, 0-1 (agg 1-2); Liepaja (Lat) v Dinamo Minsk (Bls) 1-1, 2-1 (agg 3-2); Maccabi Haifa (Isr) v Mura (Sln) 2-0, 3-2 (agg 5-2); Malmo (Swe) v Ballymena United 7-0, 4-0 (agg 11-0); Molde (Nor) v KR (Ice) 7-1, 0-0 (agg 7-1); Olimpija Ljubljana (Sln) v RFS (Lat) 2-3, 2-0 (agg 4-3); Ordabasy (Kaz) v Torpedo Kutaisi (Geo) 1-0, 2-0 (agg 3-0); Pyunik (Arm) v Shkupi (NMa) 3-3, 2-1 (agg 5-4); Radnik Bijeljina (Bos) v Spartak Trnava (Slk) 2-0, 0-2 (aet) (agg 2-2, Spartak Trnava 3-2 on pens); Riteriai (Lit) v KI 1-1, 0-0 (agg 1-1, KI on away goals); Ruzomberok (Slk) v Levski Sofia (Bul) 0-2, 0-2 (agg 0-4); Sabail (Aze) v Universitatea Craiova (Rom) 2-3, 2-3 (agg 4-6); Shakhtyor (Bls) v Hibernians (Mlt) 1-0, 1-0 (agg 2-0); Siroki Brijeg (Bos) v Kairat (Kaz) 1-2, 1-2 (agg 2-4); Speranta (Mol) v Neftchi (Aze) 0-3, 0-6 (agg 0-9); St Joseph's v Rangers (Sco) 0-4, 0-6 (agg 0-10); St Patrick's Athletic (RoI) v Norrkoping (Swe) 0-2, 1-2 (agg 1-4); Stjarnan (Ice) v FCI Levadia (Est) 2-1, 2-3 (aet) (agg 4-4, Stjarnan on away goals); Trans Narva (Est) v Buducnost (Mne) 0-2, 1-4 (agg 1-6); Ventspils (Lat) v Teuta Durres (Alb) 3-0, 0-1 (agg 3-1); Zeta (Mne) v Fehervar (Hun) 1-5, 0-0 (agg 1-5)

SOUTH AMERICA

VENEZUELA

2019 Apertura Final

1st leg - Jun 23; 2nd leg - Jun 30
Estudiantes v Mineros 0-0, 0-0
(agg 0-0, Estudiantes 2-0 on pens)

AFRICA

BENIN

2018-19 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Buffles (C)	34	19	8	7	31	12	65
Beke	34	17	10	7	44	25	61
Tonnerre	34	14	11	9	30	20	53
Pantheres	34	14	8	12	42	40	50
Ayema	34	13	9	12	34	29	48
ASPAC	34	13	8	13	28	31	47
Dragons	34	13	7	14	37	37	46
ESAE	34	12	10	12	25	26	46
ASVO	34	11	12	11	24	22	45
JA Cotonou	34	10	15	9	26	25	45
Jeunesse Sp	34	12	9	13	26	29	45
USS Krake	34	10	14	10	22	24	44
Energie	34	10	13	11	28	27	43
UPI-ONM	34	12	7	15	29	42	43
Avrankou (R)	34	10	12	12	28	27	42
ASOS (R)	34	10	11	13	27	34	41
Dynamo (R)	34	9	11	14	32	37	38
Soleil (R)	34	7	5	22	29	55	26

AS Police excluded mid-season; results annulled

CAPE VERDE ISLANDS

2019 Championship Final

Jun 1: Mindelense 3 Oasis Atlantico 1.

COMOROS ISLANDS

2019 – NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fomboni (C)	2	2	0	0	6	0	6
Steal Nouvel	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
Male	2	0	0	2	1	6	0

ESWATINI (SWAZILAND)

2018-19 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Grn Mamba (C)	26	18	4	4	45	12	58
Ryl Leopards	26	18	4	4	43	13	58
Yng Buffaloes	26	13	9	4	39	19	48
Mb Swallows	26	13	7	6	32	19	46
Mb Highl'ders	26	12	8	6	31	20	44
M'ni Sea Birds	26	10	4	12	34	34	34
Matsapha Utd	26	8	6	12	29	34	30
Malanti Chiefs	26	6	11	9	24	29	29
Manzini Sund's	26	6	9	11	17	34	27
Mo'ni Pirates	26	6	9	11	23	34	27
Manzini Wndrs	26	7	6	13	23	34	27
Tambuti	26	6	8	12	20	30	26
Vovovo (R)	26	4	10	12	16	31	22
Mb Citizens (R)	26	2	11	13	17	50	17

GAMBIA

2018-19 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brikama U (C)	26	12	10	4	27	15	46
Real Banjul	26	12	9	5	29	12	45
Armed Forces	26	8	16	2	21	11	40
Fortune	26	9	12	5	22	17	39
Gamtel	26	9	9	8	27	25	36
Hawks	26	7	14	5	14	13	35
Marimoo	26	8	10	8	20	17	34
GPA	26	8	10	8	17	14	34
Wallidan	26	8	10	8	22	24	34
Katchikally	26	6	14	6	16	16	32
Banjul Utd	26	4	14	8	13	19	26
Tallinding Utd	26	4	11	11	13	22	23
Samger (R)	26	3	13	10	13	23	22
Wellingara (R)	26	2	12	12	15	41	18

GHANA

2019 Championship (special competition) Final

Jun 23: Asante Kotoko 1 Karela 1
(Asante Kotoko 4-1 on pens).

GUINEA

2018-19 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Horoya (C)	26	19	3	4	49	17	60
Hafia	26	12	8	6	36	25	44
Santoba	26	10	11	5	35	31	41
CO Coyah	26	9	13	4	35	26	40
Wakriya	26	9	11	6	24	17	38
AS Kaloum	26	7	15	4	26	23	36
CI Kamsar	26	7	10	9	27	30	31
ASFAG	26	8	7	11	27	33	31
Fello Star	26	8	6	12	25	33	30
Ashanti GB	26	6	11	9	18	20	29
Elephant	26	6	10	10	31	39	28
Satellite	26	7	7	12	27	37	28
Renaissance (R)	26	5	9	12	29	41	24
Gangan (R)	26	4	9	13	21	38	21

GUINEA-BISSAU

2018-19 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
UDIB (C)	26	17	3	6	38	22	54
Nuno Tristao	26	13	8	5	33	20	47
SC Bafata	26	13	4	9	28	27	43
Sporting GB	26	11	10	5	31	14	43
Cuntum	26	12	6	8	28	19	42
SB Benfica	26	12	5	9	32	17	41
Os Balantas	26	9	9	8	21	24	36
Flamengo	26	8	11	7	21	26	35
Portos	26	9	6	11	35	33	33
Pelundo	26	8	5	13	25	26	29
Desp Gabu	26	5	11	10	21	30	26
Atletico Bissora	26	6	7	13	14	25	25
Lagartos (R)	26	5	9	12	23	38	24
Desp Farim (R)	26	3	8	15	16	45	17

LESOTHO

2018-19 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Matlama (C)	26	20	2	4	53	13	62
Bantu	26	18	6	2	52	11	60
LCS	26	14	7	5	33	14	49
Defence Force	26	12	8	6	23	19	44
Kick4Life	26	11	5	10	29	30	38
LMPS	26	10	7	9	22	19	37
Lioli	26	11	3	12	28	22	36
Liphakoe	26	9	9	8	25	21	36
Sefothafotha	26	6	12	8	21	26	30
Likhopo	26	9	2	15	21	43	29
Linare	26	6	8	12	21	30	26
Swallows	26	5	6	15	17	46	21
Galaxy (R)	26	5	4	17	16	34	19
Majantja (R)	26	4	5	17	21	54	17

LIBERIA

2019 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
LPRC Oilers (C)	22	16	6	0	47	6	54
LISCR	22	15	4	3	48	16	49
Barrack YC	22	10	8	4	42	20	38
Watanga	22	11	5	6	26	20	38
Nimba United	22	9	6	7	35	24	33
Small Town	22	9	3	10	29	31	30
MC Breweries	22	7	7	8	29	29	28
NPA Anchors	22	4	11	7	21	27	23
Nimba FC	22	6	4	12	19	34	22
Jubilee (R)	22	4	5	13	19	38	17
Fassell (R)	22	3	6	13	20	58	15
Keitrace (R)	22	3	5	14	20	52	14

MADAGASCAR

2019 – CHAMPIONSHIP GROUP – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fosa Juniors (C)	7	5	2	0	15	6	17
AS Adema	7	3	3	1	8	6	12
CNaPS	7	3	2	2	11	5	11
Zanak'Ala	7	3	1	3	8	9	10
3FB Toliara	7	3	0	4	5	6	9
JET Mada	7	1	4	2	8	7	7
FCA Ilakaka	7	1	3	3	5	13	6
Ajesaia	7	0	3	4	2	10	3

NIGER

2018-19 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sonidep (C)	26	17	7	2	37	13	58
Police	26	15	7	4	38	21	52
GNN	26	12	8	6	33	24	44
FAN	26	11	8	7	30	21	41
Sahel	26	10	11	5	35	28	41
Gendarmerie	26	10	5	11	27	27	35
Nigelec	26	7	11	8	32	20	32
Racing B'koki	26	7	10	9	27	34	31
Douanes	26	6	10	10	20	20	28
Jangorzo	26	7	7	12	25	38	28
Espoir	26	7	6	13	19	46	27
Urana	26	4	12	10	23	27	24
Tahoua (R)	26	5	9	12	23	36	24
Akokana (R)	26	3	11	12	15	29	20

SOMALIA

2019 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dekedda (C)	18	13	3	2	37	13	42
Horseed	18	12	4	2	39	8	40
Elman	18	10	5	3	35	20	35
Heegan	18	9	5	4	27	13	32
Mogadishu City	18	7	5	6	31	22	26
Jazeera	18	5	6	7	27	35	21
Midnimo	18	5	3	10	10	25	18
Gaadiidka	18	5	3	10	17	34	18
Madbacadda (R)	18	3	4	11	13	29	13
Jeenyo (R)	18	1	2	15	16	53	5

SOUTH SUDAN

2019 – CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY-OFFS – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Atlabara (C)	2	1	1	0	4	1	4
Al Hilal	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Al Gadesia	2	0	1	1	2	5	1

SUDAN

2018-19 – CHAMPIONSHIP GROUP – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Merreikh Om (C)	7	6	1	0	11	2	19
Al Hilal Om	7	5	2	0	20	1	17
Al Ahli Sh'di	7	5	0	2	12	6	15
Khartoum	7	3	2	2	13	5	11
Al Hilal Ob	7	3	1	3	6	10	10
Hay Al Wadi	7	1	1	5	4	14	4
Al Shorta	7	1	1	5	6	21	4
Merreikh El F	7	0	0	7	3	16	0

TANZANIA

2018-19 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Simba (C)	38	29	6	3	77	15	93
Yng Africans	38	27	5	6	56	27	86
Azam	38	21	12	5	54	21	75
KMC	38	13	16	9	40	25	55
Mtibwa Sugar	38	14	8	16	36	34	50
Lipuli	38	12	13	13	32	40	49
Mbeya City	38	13	9	16	38	39	48
Coastal Union	38	11	15	12	32	42	48
Ndanda	38	12	12	14	25	37	48
JKT Tanzania	38	11	14	13	29	35	47
Alliance Schools	38	12	11	15	34	43	47
Prisons	38	11	13	14	30	31	46
Singida Utd	38	11	13	14	30	39	46
Biashara Utd	38	11	12	15	30	35	45
Ruvu Shooting	38	11	12	15	35	43	45
Mbao	38	11	12	15	27	41	45
Mwadui[1]	38	12	8	18	47	52	44
Kagera Sugar[1]	38	10	14	14	33	43	44
Stand Utd (R)	38	12	8	18	38	50	44
African Lyon (R)	38	4	11	23	23	54	23

[1] *Stay in top division after winning rel/prom play-off*

ZAMBIA

2019 Championship Final

Jun 29: Zesco United 0 Green Eagles 0 (Zesco United 3-1 on pens).

ASIA

AFC CUP

Final tables

GROUP A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Al Wehdat (Q)	6	4	1	1	12	4	13
Al Jaish (Q)	6	2	4	0	6	4	10
Hilal Al Quds	6	2	2	2	7	11	8
Al Nejmeh	6	0	1	5	4	10	1

Al Jaish (Syr), Al Nejmeh (Leb), Al Wehdat (Jor), Hilal Al Quds (Pal)

GROUP B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Al Jazeera (Q)	6	5	1	0	13	2	16
Kuwait SC	6	3	1	2	6	4	10
Al Najma	6	2	1	3	6	9	7
Al Ittihad	6	0	1	5	2	12	1

Al Ittihad (Syr), Al Jazeera (Jor), Al Najma (Bhn), Kuwait SC (Kuw)

GROUP C	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Al Ahed (Q)	6	4	2	0	8	3	14
Malkiya	6	2	2	2	8	8	8
Al Qadsia	6	2	1	3	6	6	7
Al Suwaiq	6	1	1	4	7	12	4

Al Ahed (Leb), Al Qadsia (Kuw), Al Suwaiq (Oma), Malkiya (Bhn)

GROUP D	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Altyn Asyr (Q)	6	2	4	0	7	4	10
Istiklol	6	2	2	2	12	8	8
Dordoi	6	2	1	3	9	12	7
Khujand	6	2	1	3	6	10	7

Altyn Asyr (Tkm), Dordoi (Kyr), Istiklol (Taj), Khujand (Taj)

GROUP E	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Abahani D (Q)	6	4	1	1	12	5	13
Chennaiyin	6	3	2	1	9	6	11
Minerva P	6	0	5	1	6	7	5
Manang Mar'di	6	0	2	4	5	14	2

Abahani Dhaka (Ban), Chennaiyin (Ind), Manang Marshyangdi (Nep), Minerva Punjab (Ind)

GROUP F	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ha Noi (Q)	6	4	1	1	23	5	13
Tampines Rvrs	6	4	1	1	17	10	13
Yangon United	6	2	0	4	10	14	6
Nagaworld	6	1	0	5	6	27	3

Ha Noi (Vie), Nagaworld (Cmb), Tampines Rovers (Sin), Yangon United (Mym)

GROUP G	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ceres (Q)	6	5	0	1	15	6	15
Binh Duong (Q)	6	4	1	1	13	5	13
Persija	6	2	1	3	12	9	7
Shan United	6	0	0	6	5	25	0

Binh Duong (Vie), Ceres (Phi), Persija (Ins), Shan United (Mym)

GROUP H	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PSM (Q)	6	4	2	0	17	8	14
Home United	6	3	1	2	9	11	10
Kaya	6	2	2	2	13	7	8
Lao Toyota	6	0	1	5	7	20	1

Home United (Sin), Kaya (Phi), Lao Toyota (Lao), PSM (Ins)

GROUP I	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
April 25 (Q)	6	5	0	1	17	2	15
Kitchee	6	3	1	2	11	10	10
Tai Po	6	2	2	2	13	15	8
Hang Yuen	6	0	1	5	4	18	1

April 25 (NKo), Hang Yuen (Tai), Kitchee (HK), Tai Po (HK)

● *Teams indicated have qualified for the next stage of the various regional zones*

OMAN

2018-19 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dhofar (C)	26	20	6	0	57	11	66
Al Nasr	26	14	8	4	40	23	50
Al Nahda	26	12	7	7	33	26	43
Al Suwaiq	26	10	11	5	38	28	41
Al Rustaq	26	11	7	8	30	23	40
Saham	26	11	5	10	37	39	38
Sohar	26	10	7	9	37	34	37
Al Oruba	26	8	12	6	33	24	36
Muscat	26	8	6	12	31	36	30
Mirbat	26	8	6	12	25	35	30
Oman Club	26	8	3	15	28	45	27
Al Shabab (R)	26	7	3	16	29	45	24
Sur (R)	26	4	8	14	26	48	20
Majees (R)	26	4	5	17	15	42	17

OCEANIA

VANUATU

2019 National Championship Final

Jun 29: Galaxy 1 Malampa Revivors 3.

CONCACAF

ARUBA

2018-19 Championship Final

1st leg -Jun12; 2nd leg -Jun15; 3rd leg -Jun19

Racing Club Aruba v Deportivo Nacional 1-3, 1-0, 1-0 (Racing Club Aruba won 2 legs to 1)

FRENCH GUIANA

2018-19 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts[1]
Agouado (C)	22	16	3	3	51	25	73
Le Geldar	22	13	8	1	51	20	69
Etoile	22	12	7	3	43	19	65
US Matoury	22	14	1	7	46	28	65
CSC Cayenne	22	6	9	7	44	48	49
Oyapock	22	7	6	9	32	39	49
Grand Santi[2]	22	7	6	9	21	27	48
Kourou	22	6	7	9	29	42	47
Remire	22	7	4	11	28	37	47
Saint-Georges[3]	22	7	1	14	31	50	44
Sinnamary[2] (R)	22	4	6	12	26	38	39
ASC Ouest (R)	22	2	4	16	15	44	32

[1] *4pts for a win, 2pts for a draw,1pt for a defeat*
[2] *1pt deducted*
[3] *Stay in top division after winning rel/prom play-off*

GUADELOUPE

2018-19 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts[1]
Amical (C)	26	16	7	3	42	20	81
Moulien	26	16	5	5	35	16	79
Baie-Mahault	26	14	8	4	52	23	76
Phare Canal	26	12	10	4	33	19	72
Arsenal	26	12	7	7	23	18	69
La Gauloise	26	10	7	9	31	23	63
Unite St Rose	26	9	8	9	32	30	61
Solidarite Sc	26	10	4	12	28	28	60
Std Lamentinois	26	8	8	10	31	35	58
AS Gosier	26	8	7	11	31	41	57
UNAR	26	6	6	14	24	34	50
L'Etoile[2] (R)	26	7	4	15	30	41	50
Siroco (R)	26	6	3	17	17	43	47
Red Star (R)	26	5	2	19	17	55	43

[1] *4pts for a win, 2pts for a draw,1pt for a defeat*
[2] *1pt deducted*

GUYANA

2019 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fruta Conq's (C)	9	9	0	0	43	5	27
Western Tigers	9	6	2	1	21	9	20
Den Amstel	9	5	2	2	23	13	17
GDF	9	4	2	3	14	10	14
Buxton United	9	3	2	4	9	11	11
Santos	9	3	1	5	11	19	10
Police	9	2	2	5	7	12	8
Milerock[1]	9	2	3	4	8	16	6
Victoria Kings[1]	9	2	1	6	12	29	4
Ann's Grove U	9	1	1	7	2	26	4

[1] *3pts deducted*

HAITI

2019 Ouverture (opening) Final

1st leg -Jun 6; 2nd leg -Jun 9

Arcahaie v Real Hope 1-0, 1-1 (agg 2-1)

MARTINIQUE

2018-19 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts[1]
Franciscain (C)	26	20	3	3	65	23	89
Golden Lion	26	19	5	2	71	16	88
Aiglon	26	19	2	5	56	26	85
Colonial	26	10	6	10	28	27	62
Samaritaine[2]	26	10	6	10	26	30	61
US Robert	26	9	7	10	33	31	60
Rapid Club	26	8	8	10	29	36	58
Essor-Pre'tain	26	7	8	11	34	45	55
Riviere-Pilote	26	7	7	12	33	35	54
New Star	26	7	6	13	22	36	53
Saint-Joseph[2]	26	6	10	10	29	45	53
Golden Star (R)	26	5	11	10	25	36	52
Emulation (R)	26	6	5	15	24	54	49
Assaut (R)	26	4	6	16	22	57	44

[1] *4pts for a win, 2pts for a draw,1pt for a defeat*
[2] *1pt deducted*

KEY TO TABLES
(C) = champions
(R) = relegated
(Q) = qualified for next stage
(QF) = qualified for Final
(QB) = qualified for bronze-medal match

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AFCON 2019

ALGERIA

GOALKEEPERS

1	Azzedine **DOUKHA**	(32) 05.08.86	Al Raed (Sau)
23	Rais **M'BOLHI**	(33) 25.04.86	Al Ettifaq (Sau)
16	Alexandre **OUKIDJA**	(30) 19.07.88	Metz (Fra)

DEFENDERS

20	Youcef **ATAL**	(23) 17.05.96	Nice (Fra)
4	Djamel **BENLAMRI**	(29) 25.12.89	Al Shabab (Sau)
21	Ramy **BENSEBAINI**	(24) 16.04.95	Rennes (Fra)
6	Mohamed **FARES**	(23) 15.02.96	Verona (Ita)
5	Rafik **HALLICHE**	(32) 02.09.86	Moreirense (Por)
2	Aissa **MANDI**	(27) 22.10.91	Real Betis (Spa)
3	Mehdi **TAHRAT**	(29) 24.01.90	Lens (Fra)
18	Mehdi **ZEFFANE**	(27) 19.05.92	Rennes (Fra)

MIDFIELDERS

19	Mehdi **ABEID**	(26) 06.08.92	Dijon (Fra)
22	Ismael **BENNACER**	(21) 01.12.97	Empoli (Ita)
14	Hicham **BOUDAOUI**	(19) 23.09.99	Paradou AC (Alg)
11	Yacine **BRAHIMI**	(29) 08.02.90	Porto (Por)
10	Sofiane **FEGHOULI**	(29) 26.12.89	Galatasaray (Tur)
17	Adlene **GUEDIOURA**	(33) 12.11.85	Nottingham Forest (Eng)
12	Adam **OUNAS**	(22) 11.11.96	Napoli (Ita)

FORWARDS

8	Youcef **BELAILI**	(27) 14.03.92	Esperance (Tun)
15	Andy **DELORT**	(27) 09.10.91	Montpellier (Fra)
9	Baghdad **BOUNEDJAH**	(27) 30.11.91	Al Sadd (Qat)
7	Riyad **MAHREZ**	(28) 21.02.91	Manchester City (Eng)
13	Islam **SLIMANI**	(31) 18.06.88	Leicester City (Eng)

COACH

Djamel **BELMADI**	(43) 25.03.76	

ANGOLA

GOALKEEPERS

22	**LANDU**	(29) 04.01.90	Interclube
1	**NDULO**	(23) 01.06.96	Desportivo da Huila
12	**TONY CABACA**	(33) 23.04.86	1 de Agosto

DEFENDERS

23	Eddie **AFONSO**	(25) 07.03.94	Petro de Luanda
15	**BASTOS**	(27) 23.11.91	Lazio (Ita)
3	Jonathan **BUATU**	(25) 27.09.93	Rio Ave (Por)
6	Wilson **CARMO**	(28) 29.09.90	Petro de Luanda
21	Isaac **CORREIA**	(28) 25.04.91	1 de Agosto
5	**DANI MASSUNGUNA**	(33) 01.05.86	1 de Agosto
2	Bruno **GASPAR**	(26) 21.04.93	Sporting (Por)
8	**PAIZO**	(27) 10.05.92	1 de Agosto

MIDFIELDERS

18	**HERENILSON**	(22) 26.08.96	Petro de Luanda
13	Jose **MACAIA**	(25) 24.03.94	1 de Agosto
4	**SHOW**	(20) 06.03.99	1 de Agosto
16	**STELVIO**	(30) 24.01.89	Dudelange (Lux)

FORWARDS

19	Evandro **BRANDAO**	(28) 07.05.91	Leixoes (Por)
7	**DJALMA**	(32) 30.05.87	Alanyaspor (Tur)
20	Wilson **EDUARDO**	(28) 08.07.90	Braga (Por)
9	**FREDY**	(29) 27.03.90	Antalyaspor (Tur)
10	**GELSON**	(22) 13.07.96	Sporting (Por)
11	**GERALDO**	(27) 23.11.91	Al Ahly (Egy)
14	**MABULULU**	(29) 10.09.89	1 de Agosto
17	**MATEUS**	(35) 19.06.84	Boavista (Por)

COACH

Srdan **VASILJEVIC** (Ser)	(46) 01.04.73	

BENIN

GOALKEEPERS

16	Saturnin **ALLAGBE**	(25) 22.11.93	Niort (Fra)
1	Fabien **FARNOLLE**	(34) 05.02.85	Malatyaspor (Tur)
23	Cherif Dine **KAKPO**	(21) 01.12.97	Buffles

DEFENDERS

3	Khaled **ADENON**	(33) 28.07.85	Amiens (Fra)
13	Moise **ADILEHOU**	(23) 01.11.95	Levadiakos (Gre)
2	Seidou **BARAZE**	(28) 20.10.90	Yzeure (Fra)
22	Rodrigue **FASSINOU**	(20) 22.05.99	ASPAC
11	Emmanuel **IMOROU**	(30) 16.09.88	Caen (Fra)
12	David **KIKI**	(25) 25.11.93	Brest (Fra)
5	Junior **SALOMON**	(33) 08.04.86	Plateau United (Nga)
6	Olivier **VERDON**	(23) 05.10.95	Alaves (Spa)

MIDFIELDERS

8	Jordan **ADEOTI**	(30) 12.03.89	Auxerre (Fra)
4	Tidjani **ANAANE**	(22) 27.03.97	Ben Guerdane (Tun)
15	Sessi **D'ALMEIDA**	(23) 20.11.95	Yeovil Town (Eng)
21	Rodrigue **KOSSI**	(18) 11.07.00	Club Africain (Tun)
18	Mama **SEIBOU**	(23) 28.12.95	Toulon (Fra)
17	Stephane **SESSEGNON**	(35) 01.06.84	Genclerbirligi (Tur)

FORWARDS

19	Segbe **AZANKPO**	(26) 06.05.93	Senica (Slk)
7	David **DJIGLA**	(23) 23.08.95	Niort (Fra)
20	Jodel **DOSSOU**	(27) 17.03.92	Vaduz (Lie)
9	Steve **MOUNIE**	(24) 29.09.94	Huddersfield Town (Eng)
10	Mickael **POTE**	(34) 24.09.84	Adana Demirspor (Tur)
14	Cebio **SOUKOU**	(26) 02.10.92	Hansa Rostock (Ger)

COACH

Michel **DUSSUYER** (Fra)	(60) 28.05.59	

BURUNDI

GOALKEEPERS

23	MacArthur **ARAKAZA**	(23) 27.07.95	Sofapaka (Ken)
1	Jonathan **NAHIMANA**	(19) 12.12.99	TP Bata
13	Justin **NDIKUMANA**	(26) 01.03.93	Sofapaka (Ken)

DEFENDERS

15	Omar **MOUSSA**	(21) 30.08.97	Sofapaka (Ken)
22	Christophe **NDUWARUGIRA**	(24) 22.06.94	Amora (Por)
14	Omar **NGANDU**	(22) 03.10.96	AS Kigali (Rwa)
6	Karim **NIZIGIYIMANA**	(30) 21.06.89	Vipers (Uga)
19	Frederic **NSABIYUMVA**	(24) 26.04.95	Chippa United (SAf)
16	David **NSHIMIRIMANA**	(26) 02.01.93	Mukura (Rwa)

MIDFIELDERS

5	Gael **BIGIRIMANA**	(25) 22.10.93	Hibernian (Sco)
8	Gael **DUHAYINDAVYI**	(29) 15.04.90	Mukura (Rwa)
4	Pierre **KWIZERA**	(28) 16.04.91	Al Orouba (Oma)
10	Shassiri **NAHIMANA**	(25) 05.08.93	Al Mujazzal (Sau)
2	Enock **SABUMUKAMA**	(24) 04.09.94	ZESCO United (Zam)
12	Hussein **SHABANI**	(28) 26.09.90	Ethiopian Coffee (Eth)

FORWARDS

7	Fiston **ABDUL RAZAK**	(26) 01.03.93	JS Kabylie (Alg)
17	Cedric **AMISSI**	(29) 20.03.90	Al Taawoun (Sau)
21	Mohamed **AMISSI**	(18) 03.08.00	NAC Breda (Hol)
18	Saido **BERAHINO**	(25) 04.08.93	Stoke City (Eng)
3	Elvis **KAMSOBA**	(22) 27.06.96	Melbourne Victory (Aus)
9	Laudit **MAVUGO**	(29) 10.10.89	NAPSA Stars (Zam)
20	Francis **MUSTAFA**	(23) 03.05.96	Gor Mahia (Ken)
11	Selemani **NDIKUMANA**	(32) 18.03.87	Al Adalah (Sau)

COACH

Olivier **NIYUNGEKO**	(48) 10.10.70	

CAMEROON

GOALKEEPERS

23	Carlos **KAMENI**	(35) 18.02.84	Fenerbahce (Tur)
1	Andre **ONANA**	(23) 02.04.96	Ajax (Hol)
16	Fabrice **ONDOA**	(23) 24.12.95	Oostende (Blg)

DEFENDERS

3	Gaetan **BONG**	(31) 25.04.88	Brighton & Hove Albion (Eng)
12	Joyskim **DAWA**	(23) 09.04.96	Mariupol (Ukr)
2	Collins **FAI**	(26) 23.11.92	Standard Liege (Blg)
22	Jean-Armel **KANA-BIYIK**	(29) 03.07.89	Kayserispor (Tur)
5	Michael **NGADEU-NGADJUI**	(28) 23.11.90	Slavia Prague (CzR)
6	Ambroise **OYONGO**	(27) 22.06.91	Montpellier (Fra)
4	Banana **YAYA**	(27) 29.07.91	Olympiakos (Gre)

MIDFIELDERS

11	Christian **BASSOGOG**	(23) 18.10.95	Henan Jianye (Chn)
20	Olivier **BOUMAL**	(29) 17.09.89	Panionios (Gre)
10	Arnaud **DJOUM**	(30) 02.05.89	Hearts (Sco)
21	Wilfrid **KAPTOUM**	(22) 07.07.96	Real Betis (Spa)
15	Pierre **KUNDE**	(23) 26.07.95	Mainz (Ger)
14	Georges **MANDJECK**	(30) 09.12.88	Sparta Prague (CzR)
8	Andre-Frank **ZAMBO ANGUISSA**	(23) 16.11.95	Fulham (Eng)

FORWARDS

9	Stephane **BAHOKEN**	(27) 28.05.92	Angers (Fra)
13	Eric Maxim **CHOUPO-MOTING**	(30) 23.03.89	Paris Saint-Germain (Fra)
7	Clinton **N'JIE**	(25) 15.08.93	Marseille (Fra)
18	Joel **TAGUEU**	(25) 06.11.93	Cruzeiro (Bra)
17	Karl **TOKO EKAMBI**	(26) 14.09.92	Villarreal (Spa)
19	Jacques **ZOUA**	(27) 06.09.91	Astra Giurgiu (Rom)

COACH

Clarence **SEEDORF** (Hol)	(43) 01.04.76	

DR CONGO

GOALKEEPERS

23	Parfait **MANDANDA**	(29) 10.11.89	Charleroi (Blg)
1	Ley **MATAMPI**	(30) 18.04.89	Al Ansar (Sau)
16	Anthony **MOSSI**	(25) 15.05.94	Chiasso (Swi)

DEFENDERS

15	Christian **LUYINDAMA**	(25) 08.01.94	Galatasaray (Tur)
14	Arthur **MASUAKU**	(25) 07.11.93	West Ham United (Eng)
22	Chancel **MBEMBA**	(24) 08.08.94	Porto (Por)
12	Wilfred **MOKE**	(31) 12.02.88	Ankaragucu (Tur)
2	Issama **MPEKO**	(30) 30.04.89	TP Mazembe
3	Ngonda **MUZINGA**	(25) 31.12.93	AS Vita Club
21	Djuma **SHABANI**	(26) 16.03.93	AS Vita Club
5	Marcel **TISSERAND**	(26) 10.01.93	Wolfsburg (Ger)
4	Bobo **UNGENDA**	(29) 19.11.89	1º de Agosto (Ang)

MIDFIELDERS

6	Chadrac **AKOLO**	(24) 01.01.95	Stuttgart (Ger)
18	Merveille **BOKADI**	(23) 21.05.96	Standard Liege (Blg)
20	Jacques **MAGHOMA**	(31) 23.10.87	Birmingham City (Eng)
10	Paul-Jose **M'POKU**	(27) 19.04.92	Standard Liege (Blg)
8	Tresor **MPUTU**	(33) 17.09.85	TP Mazembe
7	Youssouf **MULUMBU**	(32) 25.01.87	Celtic (Sco)

FIRWARDS

19	Britt **ASSOMBALONGA**	(26) 06.12.92	Middlesbrough (Eng)
17	Cedric **BAKAMBU**	(28) 11.04.91	Beijing Sinobo Guoan (Chn)
11	Yannick **BOLASIE**	(29) 24.06.89	Everton (Eng)
9	Jonathan **BOLINGI**	(24) 30.06.94	Antwerp (Blg)
13	Meschak **ELIA**	(21) 06.08.97	TP Mazembe

COACH

Florent **IBENGE**	(57) 04.12.61	

EGYPT

GOALKEEPERS

1	Ahmed **EL SHENAWY**	(28) 14.05.91	Pyramids
16	Mohamed **EL SHENAWY**	(30) 18.12.88	Al Ahly
23	Mahmoud **GENESH**	(32) 25.05.87	Zamalek

DEFENDERS

20	Mahmoud **ALAA**	(28) 28.01.91	Zamalek
12	Ayman **ASHRAF**	(28) 09.04.91	Al Ahly
13	Ahmed **AYMAN**	(25) 13.04.94	Pyramids
3	Ahmed **EL MOHAMADY**	(31) 09.09.87	Aston Villa (Eng)
2	Baher **EL MOHAMADY**	(22) 01.11.96	Ismaily
4	Omar **GABER**	(27) 30.01.92	Pyramids
15	Mahmoud **HAMDY**	(24) 01.06.95	Zamalek
6	Ahmed **HEGAZI**	(28) 25.01.91	West Bromwich Albion (Eng)

MIDFIELDERS

17	Mohamed **EL NENY**	(26) 11.07.92	Arsenal (Eng)
19	Abdallah **EL SAID**	(33) 13.07.85	Pyramids
21	Nabil **EMAD**	(23) 06.04.96	Pyramids
5	Ali **GHAZAL**	(27) 01.02.92	Feirense (Por)
8	Tarek **HAMED**	(30) 24.10.88	Zamalek
11	Walid **SOLIMAN**	(34) 01.12.84	Al Ahly
7	**TREZEGUET**	(24) 01.10.94	Kasimpasa (Tur)
22	Amr **WARDA**	(25) 17.09.93	PAOK (Gre)

FORWARDS

14	Ahmed **ALI**	(33) 21.05.86	Al Mokawloon
18	**KOUKA**	(26) 05.03.93	Braga (Por)
9	Marwan **MOHSEN**	(30) 26.02.89	Al Ahly
10	Mohamed **SALAH**	(27) 15.06.92	Liverpool (Eng)

COACH

Javier **AGUIRRE** (Mex)	(60) 01.12.58	

GHANA

GOALKEEPERS

16	Felix **ANNAN**	(24) 22.11.94	Asante Kotoko
12	Lawrence **ATI-ZIGI**	(22) 29.11.96	Sochaux (Fra)
1	Richard **OFORI**	(25) 01.11.93	Maritzburg United (SAf)

DEFENDERS

14	Lumor **AGBENYENU**	(22) 15.08.96	Sporting (Por)
18	Joseph **AIDOO**	(23) 29.09.95	Genk (Blg)
2	Joseph **ATTAMAH**	(25) 22.05.94	Istanbul Basaksehir (Tur)
21	John **BOYE**	(32) 23.04.87	Metz (Fra)
4	Jonathan **MENSAH**	(28) 13.07.90	Columbus Crew (USA)
15	Kasim **NUHU**	(23) 22.06.95	Hoffenheim (Ger)
17	Baba **RAHMAN**	(24) 02.07.94	Chelsea (Eng)
22	Andy **YIADOM**	(27) 02.12.91	Reading (Eng)

MIDFIELDERS

6	Afriyie **ACQUAH**	(27) 05.01.92	Empoli (Ita)
23	Thomas **AGYEPONG**	(22) 10.12.96	Manchester City (Eng)
20	Kwadwo **ASAMOAH**	(30) 09.12.88	Internazionale (Ita)
7	Christian **ATSU**	(27) 10.01.92	Newcastle United (Eng)
10	Andre **AYEW**	(29) 17.12.89	Swansea City (Eng)
19	Samuel **OWUSU**	(23) 28.03.96	Cukaricki (Ser)
5	Thomas **PARTEY**	(26) 13.06.93	Atletico Madrid (Spa)
11	Mubarak **WAKASO**	(28) 25.07.90	Alaves (Spa)

FORWARDS

9	Jordan **AYEW**	(27) 11.09.91	Swansea City (Eng)
13	Caleb **EKUBAN**	(23) 23.03.94	Trabzonspor (Tur)
3	Asamoah **GYAN**	(33) 22.11.85	Kayserispor (Tur)
8	Owusu **KWABENA**	(22) 18.06.97	Leganes (Spa)

COACH

James Kwesi **APPIAH**	(59) 30.06.60	

GUINEA

GOALKEEPERS

22	Aly **KEITA**	(32) 08.12.86	Ostersund (Swe)
12	Ibrahim **KONE**	(29) 05.12.89	Pau (Fra)
1	Naby **YATTARA**	(35) 12.01.84	Excelsior (Fra)

DEFENDERS

23	Fode **CAMARA**	(21) 17.04.98	GFC Ajaccio (Fra)
18	Mikael **DYRESTAM**	(27) 20.10.91	Xanthi (Gre)
6	Simon **FALETTE**	(27) 19.02.92	Eintract Frankfurt (Ger)
15	Julian **JEANVIER**	(27) 31.03.92	Brentford (Eng)
5	Ernest **SEKA**	(31) 22.06.87	Nancy (Fra)
14	Ousmane **SIDIBE**	(34) 23.04.85	Beziers (Fra)
3	Issiaga **SYLLA**	(25) 01.01.94	Toulouse (Fra)

MIDFIELDERS

7	Mady **CAMARA**	(22) 28.02.97	Olympiakos (Gre)
13	Ibrahima **CISSE**	(25) 28.02.94	Fulham (Eng)
4	Amadou **DIAWARA**	(21) 17.07.97	Napoli (Ita)
17	Boubacar **FOFANA**	(29) 06.11.89	Gaz Metan (Rom)
8	Naby **KEITA**	(24) 10.02.95	Liverpool (Eng)

FORWARDS

20	Lass **BANGOURA**	(27) 30.03.92	Rayo Vallecano (Spa)
21	Sory **KABA**	(24) 10.04.95	Dijon (Fra)
10	Francois **KAMANO**	(23) 02.05.96	Bordeaux (Fra)
9	Jose **KANTE**	(28) 27.09.90	Legia Warsaw (Pol)
19	Bengali-Fode **KOITA**	(28) 21.10.90	Kasimpasa (Tur)
11	Idrissa **SYLLA**	(28) 03.12.90	Zulte Waregem (Blg)
16	Ibrahima **TRAORE**	(31) 21.04.88	Borussia M'gladbach (Ger)
2	Mohamed **YATTARA**	(25) 28.07.93	Auxerre (Fra)

COACH

Paul **PUT** (Blg)	(63) 26.05.56	

GUINEA-BISSAU

GOALKEEPERS

23	Edimar **CA**	(18) 14.08.00	UDIB
12	Rui **DABO**	(24) 05.10.94	Armacenenses (Por)
1	Jonas **MENDES**	(29) 20.11.89	Academico Viseu (Por)

DEFENDERS

22	Mamadu **CANDE**	(28) 29.08.90	Santa Clara (Por)
2	Eliseu **CASSAMA**	(25) 06.02.94	Rio Ave (Por)
6	Tomas **DABO**	(25) 20.10.93	Rieti (Ita)
4	Marcelo **DJALO**	(25) 08.10.93	Fulham (Eng)
21	**NANU**	(25) 17.05.94	Maritimo (Por)
5	Rudinilson **SILVA**	(24) 20.08.94	Kauno Zalgiris (Lit)
14	Juary **SOARES**	(27) 20.02.92	Mafra (Por)

MIDFIELDERS

3	**BURA**	(23) 22.12.95	Aves (Por)
16	Moreto **CASSAMA**	(21) 16.02.98	Reims (Fra)
8	Joao **JAQUITE**	(23) 22.02.96	Tondela (Por)
20	Sori **MANE**	(23) 03.04.96	Cova Piedade (Por)
10	**PELE**	(27) 29.09.91	Monaco (Fra)
7	**ZEZINHO**	(26) 23.09.92	Senica (Slk)

FORWARDS

17	Mama **BALDE**	(23) 06.11.95	Sporting (Por)
9	Romario **BALDE**	(22) 25.12.96	Lechia Gdansk (Pol)
11	**JORGINHO**	(23) 21.09.95	Saint-Etienne (Fra)
19	Joseph **MENDES**	(28) 30.03.91	AC Ajaccio (Fra)
13	Frederic **MENDY**	(30) 18.09.88	Vitoria Setubal (Por)
18	**PIQUETI**	(26) 12.02.93	Al Shoulla (Sau)
15	Toni **SILVA**	(25) 15.09.93	Al Ittihad (Egy)

COACH

Baciro **CANDE**	(52) 06.04.67	

IVORY COAST

GOALKEEPERS

1	Tape **IRA ELIEZER**	(21) 31.08.97	San Pedro
16	Sylvain **GBOHOUO**	(30) 29.10.88	TP Mazembe (DRC)
23	Badra **ALI SANGARE**	(33) 30.05.86	Free State Stars (SAf)

DEFENDERS

17	Serge **AURIER**	(26) 24.12.92	Tottenham H (Eng)
22	Mamadou **BAGAYOKO**	(29) 31.12.89	Mechelen (Blg)
21	Cheick **COMARA**	(25) 14.10.93	Wydad (Mor)
2	Wonlo **COULIBALY**	(27) 22.12.91	ASEC Mimosas
3	Souleyman **DOUMBIA**	(22) 24.09.96	Rennes (Fra)
4	Jean-Philippe **GBAMIN**	(23) 25.09.95	Mainz (Ger)
5	Wilfried **KANON**	(25) 06.07.93	ADO Den Haag (Hol)
6	Ismael **TRAORE**	(32) 18.08.86	Angers (Fra)

MIDFIELDERS

7	Victorien **ANGBAN**	(22) 29.09.96	Metz (Fra)
20	Serey **DIE**	(34) 07.11.84	Basle (Swi)
15	Max **GRADEL**	(31) 30.11.87	Toulouse (Fra)
8	Franck **KESSIE**	(22) 19.12.96	Milan (Ita)
18	Ibrahim **SANGARE**	(21) 02.12.97	Toulouse (Fra)
10	Jean **MICHAEL SERI**	(27) 19.07.91	Fulham (Eng)

FORWARDS

13	Roger **ASSALE**	(25) 13.11.93	Young Boys (Swi)
12	Wilfried **BONY**	(30) 10.12.88	Swansea City (Eng)
11	Maxwel **CORNET**	(22) 27.09.96	Lyon (Fra)
14	Jonathan **KODJIA**	(29) 22.10.89	Aston Villa (Eng)
19	Nicolas **PEPE**	(24) 20.05.95	Lille (Fra)
9	Wilfried **ZAHA**	(26) 10.11.92	Crystal Palace (Eng)

COACH

Ibrahim **KAMARA**	(53) 17.05.66	

KENYA

GOALKEEPERS

18	Patrick **MATASI**	(31) 11.12.87	Saint George (Eth)
23	John **OYEMBA**	(26) 03.06.93	Kariobangi Sharks
1	Farouk **SHIKALO**	(22) 10.12.96	Bandari

DEFENDERS

5	Musa **MOHAMMED**	(28) 06.06.91	Nkana (Zam)
6	Bernard **OCHIENG**	(23) 25.01.96	Vihiga United
2	Joseph **OKUMU**	(22) 26.05.97	Real Monarchs (USA)
3	Aboud **OMAR**	(26) 09.09.92	Sepsi OSK (Rom)
4	Joash **ONYANGO**	(26) 31.01.93	Gor Mahia
20	Philemon **OTIENO**	(26) 18.10.92	Gor Mahia
13	Eric **OUMA**	(22) 27.09.96	Vasalund (Swe)
15	David **OWINO**	(31) 05.04.88	ZESCO United (Zam)

MIDFIELDERS

17	Ismael **ATHUMAN**	(24) 01.02.95	Las Palmas B (Spa)
10	Eric **JOHANNA**	(24) 08.11.94	Brommapojkarna (Swe)
11	Francis **KAHATA**	(26) 04.07.92	Gor Mahia
7	Ayub **MASIKA**	(26) 10.09.92	Beijing Renhe (Chn)
19	Ovella **OCHIENG**	(19) 23.12.99	Vasalund (Swe)
21	Dennis **ODHIAMBO**	(34) 18.03.85	Sofapaka
8	Johanna **OMOLO**	(29) 31.07.89	Cercle Brugge (Blg)
12	Victor **WANYAMA**	(27) 25.06.91	Tottenham Hotspur (Eng)
16	Paul **WERE**	(25) 08.10.93	Trikala (Gre)

FORWARDS

9	John **AVIRE**	(22) 12.03.97	Sofapaka
22	Masoud **JUMA**	(23) 03.02.96	Al Nasr (Lby)
14	Michael **OLUNGA**	(25) 26.03.94	Kashiwa Reysol (Jap)

COACH

Sebastien **MIGNE** (Fra)	(46) 30.11.72	

(ages as of 21.06.19)

AFCON 2019

MADAGASCAR

GOALKEEPERS

23	Melvin **ADRIEN**	(25) 30.08.93	Martigues (Fra)
1	Ibrahima **DABO**	(26) 22.07.92	JS Saint-Pierroise (Fra)
16	Jean **DIEU-DONNE RANDRIANASOLO**	(30) 26.05.89	CNaPS Sport

DEFENDERS

21	Thomas **FONTAINE**	(28) 08.05.91	Reims (Fra)
20	Romain **METANIRE**	(29) 28.03.90	Minnesota United (USA)
22	Jerome **MOMBRIS**	(31) 27.11.87	Grenoble (Fra)
14	Jeremy **MOREL**	(35) 02.04.84	Lyon (Fra)
17	Toavina **RAMBELOSON**	(26) 26.11.92	Arras (Fra)
4	Gervais **RANDRIANARISOA**	(34) 07.11.84	JS Saint-Pierroise (Fra)
5	Pascal **RAZAKANANTENAINA**	(32) 19.04.87	JS Saint-Pierroise (Fra)

MIDFIELDERS

13	Anicet **ABEL**	(29) 13.03.90	Ludogorets (Bul)
15	Ibrahim **AMADA**	(29) 28.02.90	MC Alger (Alg)
8	Arohasina **ANDRIANARIMANANA**	(27) 16.08.91	Kaizer Chiefs (SAf)
3	Romario **BAGGIO**	(25) 24.01.94	Fosa Juniors
7	Dimitry **CALOIN**	(29) 08.05.90	Les Herbiers (Fra)
6	Marco **ILAIMAHARITRA**	(23) 26.07.95	Charleroi (Blg)
18	Rayan **RAVELOSON**	(22) 16.01.97	Troyes (Fra)

FORWARDS

2	Carolus **ANDRIAMATSINORO**	(29) 06.07.89	Al Adalah (Sau)
9	Faneva Ima **ANDRIATSIMA**	(35) 03.06.84	Clermont (Fra)
19	William **GROS**	(27) 31.03.92	Vitre (Fra)
12	Lalaina **NOMENJANAHARY**	(33) 01.06.86	Paris FC (Fra)
10	Njiva **RAKOTOHARIMALALA**	(26) 06.08.92	Samut Sakhon (Tha)
11	Paulin **VOAVY**	(31) 10.11.87	El Makkasa (Egy)

COACH

Nicolas **DUPUIS** (Fra)	(51) 06.01.68	

MALI

GOALKEEPERS

16	Djigui **DIARRA**	(24) 27.02.95	Stade Malien
22	Adama **KEITA**	(29) 03.05.90	Djoliba
1	Ibrahim **MOUNKORO**	(29) 23.02.90	TP Mazembe (DRC)

DEFENDERS

15	Mamadou **FOFANA**	(21) 21.01.98	Metz (Fra)
6	Massadio **HAIDARA**	(26) 02.12.92	Lens (Fra)
3	Youssouf **KONE**	(23) 05.07.95	Lille (Fra)
5	Kiki **KOUYATE**	(22) 15.04.97	Troyes (Fra)
17	Falaye **SACKO**	(24) 01.05.95	Vitoria Guimaraes (Por)
2	Hamari **TRAORE**	(27) 27.01.92	Rennes (Fra)
13	Molla **WAGUE**	(28) 21.02.91	Udinese (Ita)

MIDFIELDERS

11	Lassana **COULIBALY**	(23) 10.04.96	Angers (Fra)
19	Moussa **DJENEPO**	(21) 15.06.98	Southampton (Eng)
18	Cheick **DOUCOURE**	(19) 08.01.00	Lens (Fra)
7	Moussa **DOUMBIA**	(24) 15.08.94	Reims (Fra)
4	Amadou **HAIDARA**	(21) 31.01.98	RB Leipzig (Ger)
8	Diadie **SAMASSEKOU**	(23) 11.01.96	Red Bull Salzburg (Aut)
14	Adama **TRAORE** I	(24) 05.06.95	Metz (Fra)
21	Adama **TRAORE** II	(23) 28.06.95	Monaco (Fra)

FORWARDS

10	Kalifa **COULIBALY**	(27) 21.08.91	Nantes (Fra)
23	Abdoulay **DIABY**	(28) 21.05.91	Sporting (Por)
12	Sekou **KOITA**	(19) 28.11.99	Liefering (Aut)
9	Moussa **MAREGA**	(28) 14.04.91	Porto (Por)
20	Adama **NIANE**	(26) 16.06.93	Charleroi (Blg)

COACH

Mohamed **MAGASSOUBA**	(61) 01.01.58	

MAURITANIA

GOALKEEPERS

16	Namori **DIAW**	(27) 30.12.91	ASC Kedia
22	Babacar **DIOP**	(23) 17.09.95	ASC Police
1	Brahim **SOULEYMANE**	(32) 30.12.86	ACS Ksar

DEFENDERS

3	Aly **ABEID**	(21) 11.12.97	Levante (Spa)
4	Harouna **ABOU DEMBA**	(27) 31.12.91	Grenoble (Fra)
5	Abdoul **BA**	(25) 08.02.94	Auxerre (Fra)
21	Diadie **DIARRA**	(26) 23.01.93	Sedan (Fra)
2	Moustapha **DIAW**	(22) 31.12.96	Tevragh-Zeina
15	Bakary **N'DIAYE**	(20) 26.11.98	Difaa El Jadidi (Mor)
13	Sally **SARR**	(33) 06.05.86	Servette (Swi)
20	Abdoulkader **THIAM**	(20) 03.10.98	Orleans (Fra)

MIDFIELDERS

6	Khassa **CAMARA**	(31) 22.10.92	Xanthi (Gre)
19	Ibrehima **COULIBALY**	(29) 30.07.89	Grenoble (Fra)
12	Alassane **DIOP**	(21) 22.09.97	Hajer (Sau)
18	Moctar Sidi **EL HACEN**	(21) 31.12.97	Real Valladolid (Spa)
23	Sileye **GAYE**	(27) 13.09.91	Nouadhibou
8	Diallo **GUIDILEYE**	(29) 30.12.89	Elazigspor (Tur)
14	Mohamed **YALI**	(21) 01.11.97	DRB Tadjenanet (Alg)

FORWARDS

17	Souleymane **ANNE**	(21) 05.12.97	Aurillac Arpajon (Fra)
10	Adama **BA**	(25) 27.08.93	Giresunspor (Tur)
11	**BESSAM**	(31) 05.12.87	AS Gabes (Tun)
7	Ismael **DIAKITE**	(27) 13.12.91	US Tataouine (Tun)
9	Hemeya **TANJY**	(21) 01.05.98	Nouadhibou

COACH

Corentin **MARTINS** (Fra)	(49) 11.07.69	

MOROCCO

GOALKEEPERS

1	Yassine **BOUNOU**	(28) 05.04.91	Girona (Spa)
12	Munir **MOHAND**	(30) 10.05.89	Malaga (Spa)
22	Ahmed Reda **TAGNAOUTI**	(23) 05.04.96	Wydad

DEFENDERS

21	Yunis **ABDELHAMID**	(31) 28.09.87	Reims (Fra)
23	Abdelkrim **BAADI**	(23) 14.04.96	Hassania Agadir
5	Medhi **BENATIA**	(32) 17.04.87	Al Duhail (Qat)
4	Manuel **DA COSTA**	(33) 06.05.86	Al Ittihad (Sau)
17	Nabil **DIRAR**	(33) 25.02.86	Fenerbahce (Tur)
2	Achraf **HAKIMI**	(20) 04.11.98	Real Madrid (Spa)
3	Noussair **MAZRAOUI**	(21) 14.11.97	Ajax (Hol)
6	Romain **SAISS**	(29) 26.03.90	Wolverhampton W (Eng)

MIDFIELDERS

15	Youssef **AIT BENNASSER**	(22) 07.07.96	Monaco (Fra)
10	Younes **BELHANDA**	(29) 25.02.90	Galatasaray (Tur)
9	Sofiane **BOUFAL**	(25) 17.09.93	Southampton (Eng)
18	Mehdi **BOURABIA**	(27) 08.07.91	Sassuolo (Ita)
14	Mbark **BOUSSOUFA**	(34) 15.08.84	Al Shabab (Sau)
8	Karim **EL AHMADI**	(34) 27.01.85	Al Ittihad (Sau)
11	Faycal **FAJR**	(30) 01.08.88	Caen (Fra)
7	Hakim **ZIYECH**	(26) 19.03.93	Ajax (Hol)

FORWARDS

16	Nordin **AMRABAT**	(32) 31.03.87	Al Nassr (Sau)
13	Khalid **BOUTAIB**	(32) 24.04.87	Zamalek (Egy)
19	Youssef **EN-NESYRI**	(22) 01.06.97	Leganes (Spa)
20	Oussama **IDRISSI**	(23) 26.02.96	AZ (Hol)

COACH

Herve **RENARD** (Fra)	(50) 30.09.68	

NAMIBIA

GOALKEEPERS

23	Lloyd **KAZAPUA**	(30) 25.03.89	Maccabi (SAf)
1	Maximilian **MBAEVA**	(30) 14.04.89	Golden Arrows (SAf)
16	Ratanda **MBAZUVARA**	(29) 15.08.89	African Stars

DEFENDERS

3	Ananias **GEBHARDT**	(30) 08.09.88	Baroka (SAf)
5	Charles **HAMBIRA**	(29) 03.06.90	Tura Magic
4	Riaan **HANAMUB**	(24) 08.02.95	Jomo Cosmos (SAf)
2	Denzil **HOASEB**	(28) 25.02.91	Highlands Park (SAf)
20	Ivan **KAMBERIPA**	(25) 03.02.94	African Stars
22	Ryan **NYAMBE**	(21) 04.12.97	Blackburn Rovers (Eng)

MIDFIELDERS

21	Dynamo **FREDERICKS**	(27) 04.04.92	Black Africa
6	Larry **HORAEB**	(27) 12.11.91	Tura Magic
11	Absalom **IIMBONDI**	(27) 11.10.91	United Africa Tigers
14	Joslin **KAMATUKA**	(27) 22.07.91	Cape Umoya United (SAf)
7	Hotto **KAVENDJI**	(27) 29.10.91	Bidvest Wits (SAf)
12	Ronald **KETJIJERE**	(31) 12.12.87	African Stars
15	Marcel **PAPAMA**	(23) 28.04.96	African Stars
19	Petrus **SHITEMBI**	(27) 11.05.92	Lusaka Dynamos (Zam)
8	Willy **STEPHANUS**	(27) 26.06.91	Lusaka Dynamos (Zam)

FORWARDS

18	Isaskar **GURIRAB**	(?21) 03.01.98	Life Fighters
17	Itamunua **KEIMUINE**	(26) 01.05.93	Dire Dawa City (Eth)
13	Peter **SHALULILE**	(26) 23.03.93	Highlands Park (SAf)
9	Benson **SHILONGO**	(27) 18.05.92	Ismaily (Egy)
10	Manfred **STARKE**	(28) 21.02.91	Carl Zeiss Jena (Ger)

COACH

Ricardo **MANNETTI**	(44) 24.04.75	

NIGERIA

GOALKEEPERS

16	Daniel **AKPEYI**	(33) 08.03.86	Kaizer Chiefs (SAf)
1	Ikechukwu **EZENWA**	(30) 16.10.88	Katsina United
23	Francis **UZOHO**	(20) 28.10.98	Deportivo La Coruna (Spa)

DEFENDERS

12	Shehu **ABDULLAHI**	(26) 12.03.93	Bursaspor (Tur)
2	Ola **AINA**	(22) 08.10.96	Torino (Ita)
20	Chidozie **AWAZIEM**	(22) 01.01.97	Porto (Por)
6	Leon **BALOGUN**	(30) 28.06.88	Brighton & Hove Albion (Eng)
3	Jamilu **COLLINS**	(24) 05.08.94	Paderborn (Ger)
22	Kenneth **OMERUO**	(25) 17.10.93	Chelsea (Eng)
5	William **TROOST-EKONG**	(25) 01.09.93	Udinese (Ita)

MIDFIELDERS

8	Peter **ETEBO**	(23) 09.11.95	Stoke City (Eng)
10	John Obi **MIKEL**	(32) 22.04.87	Middlesbrough (Eng)
4	Wilfred **NDIDI**	(22) 16.12.96	Leicester City (Eng)
19	John **OGU**	(31) 20.04.88	Hapoel Be'er Sheva (Isr)

FORWARDS

13	Samuel **CHUKWUEZE**	(20) 22.05.99	Villarreal (Spa)
9	Odion **IGHALO**	(30) 16.06.89	Shanghai Shenhua (Chn)
18	Alex **IWOBI**	(23) 03.05.96	Arsenal (Eng)
17	Samuel **KALU**	(21) 26.08.97	Bordeaux (Fra)
7	Ahmed **MUSA**	(26) 14.10.92	Al Nassr (Sau)
14	Paul **ONUACHU**	(25) 28.05.94	Midtjylland (Den)
11	Henry **ONYEKURU**	(22) 05.06.97	Everton (Eng)
21	Victor **OSIMHEN**	(20) 29.12.98	Charleroi (Blg)
15	Moses **SIMON**	(23) 12.07.95	Levante (Spa)

COACH

Gernot **ROHR** (Ger)	(65) 28.06.53	

SENEGAL

GOALKEEPERS

1	Abdoulaye **DIALLO**	(27) 30.03.92	Rennes (Fra)
23	Alfred **GOMIS**	(25) 05.09.93	SPAL (Ita)
16	Edouard **MENDY**	(27) 01.03.92	Reims (Fra)

DEFENDERS

2	Saliou **CISS**	(30) 15.06.89	Angers (Fra)
4	Pape Abou **CISSE**	(23) 14.09.95	Olympiakos (Gre)
21	Lamine **GASSAMA**	(29) 20.10.89	Goztepe (Tur)
3	Kalidou **KOULIBALY**	(28) 20.06.91	Napoli (Ita)
12	Youssouf **SABALY**	(26) 05.03.93	Bordeaux (Fra)
6	Salif **SANE**	(28) 25.08.90	Schalke (Ger)
22	Moussa **WAGUE**	(20) 04.10.98	Barcelona (Spa)

MIDFIELDERS

15	Krepin **DIATTA**	(20) 25.02.99	Club Brugge (Blg)
5	Idrissa **GUEYE**	(29) 26.09.89	Everton (Eng)
8	Cheikhou **KOUYATE**	(29) 21.12.89	Crystal Palace (Eng)
13	Alfred **N'DIAYE**	(29) 06.03.90	Villarreal (Spa)
17	Badou **NDIAYE**	(28) 27.10.90	Stoke City (Eng)
14	Henri **SAIVET**	(28) 26.10.90	Newcastle United (Eng)

FORWARDS

11	Keita **BALDE**	(24) 08.03.95	Monaco (Fra)
19	Mbaye **DIAGNE**	(25) 28.10.91	Galatasaray (Tur)
7	Moussa **KONATE**	(26) 03.04.93	Amiens (Fra)
10	Sadio **MANE**	(27) 10.04.92	Liverpool (Eng)
9	M'Baye **NIANG**	(24) 19.12.94	Rennes (Fra)
18	Ismaila **SARR**	(21) 25.02.98	Rennes (Fra)
20	Sada **THIOUB**	(24) 01.06.95	Nimes (Fra)

COACH

Aliou **CISSE**	(43) 24.03.76	

SOUTH AFRICA

GOALKEEPERS

16	Bruce **BVUMA**	(24) 13.05.95	Kaizer Chiefs
1	Darren **KEET**	(29) 05.08.89	Bidvest Wits
22	Ronwen **WILLIAMS**	(27) 21.01.92	SuperSport United

DEFENDERS

4	Daniel **CARDOSO**	(30) 06.10.88	Kaizer Chiefs
3	Innocent **MAELA**	(26) 14.08.92	Orlando Pirates
5	Thamsanqa **MKHIZE**	(30) 18.08.88	Cape Town City
2	Buhle **MKHWANAZI**	(29) 01.02.90	Bidvest Wits
18	Sifiso **HLANTI**	(29) 01.05.90	Bidvest Wits
14	Thulani **HLATSHWAYO**	(29) 18.12.89	Bidvest Wits
6	Ramahlwe **MPHAHLELE**	(29) 01.02.90	Kaizer Chiefs

MIDFIELDERS

15	Dean **FURMAN**	(30) 22.06.88	SuperSport United
20	Hlompho **KEKANA**	(34) 23.05.85	Mamelodi Sundowns
13	Samuel **MABUNDA**	(31) 17.04.88	Mamelodi Sundowns
12	Kamohelo **MOKOTJO**	(28) 11.03.91	Brentford (Eng)
10	Thulani **SERERO**	(28) 04.11.90	Vitesse (Hol)
17	Sibusiso **VILAKAZI**	(29) 29.12.89	Mamelodi Sundowns
8	Bongani **ZUNGU**	(26) 09.10.92	Amiens (Fra)
11	Themba **ZWANE**	(29) 03.08.89	Mamelodi Sundowns

FORWARDS

23	Thembinkosi **LORCH**	(25) 22.07.93	Orlando Pirates
7	Lebohang **MABOE**	(24) 17.09.94	Mamelodi Sundowns
9	Lebo **MOTHIBA**	(23) 28.01.96	Strasbourg (Fra)
19	Percy **TAU**	(25) 13.05.94	Brighton & Hove Albion (Eng)
21	Lars **VELDWIJK**	(27) 21.08.91	Sparta Rotterdam (Hol)

COACH

Stuart **BAXTER** (Eng)	(65) 16.08.53	

TANZANIA

GOALKEEPERS

1	Aron **KALAMBO**	(24) 13.07.94	Tanzania Prisons
18	Aishi **MANULA**	(23) 13.09.95	Simba
13	Metacha **MNATA**	(20) 25.11.98	Mbao

DEFENDERS

15	Mohamed **HUSSEINI**	(22) 01.11.96	Simba
2	Gadiel **KAMAGI**	(22) 12.09.96	Young Africans
20	Ally **MTONI**	(26) 13.03.93	Lipuli
6	David **MWANTIKA**	(30) 21.12.88	Azam
19	Vicent **PHILIPO**	(23) 01.02.96	Mbao
5	Kelvin **YONDAN**	(34) 09.10.84	Young Africans

MIDFIELDERS

8	Frank **DOMAYO**	(26) 16.02.93	Azam
22	Hassan **KESSY**	(24) 25.12.94	Nkana (Zam)
7	Himid **MAO**	(26) 05.11.92	Petrojet (Egy)
4	Erasto **NYONI**	(31) 07.05.88	Simba
3	Feisal **SALUM**	(21) 11.01.98	Young Africans
23	Mudathir **YAHYA**	(23) 06.05.96	Azam

FORWARDS

14	Raphael **BOCCO**	(29) 05.08.89	Simba
16	Rashid **MANDAWA**	(25) 05.05.94	Defence Force (Bot)
12	Simon **MSUVA**	(25) 02.10.93	Difaa El Jadidi (Mor)
17	Faridi **MUSSA**	(23) 21.06.96	Tenerife B (Spa)
10	Mbwana **SAMATTA**	(26) 23.12.92	Genk (Blg)
11	Thomas **ULIMWENGU**	(26) 14.06.93	JS Saoura (Alg)
9	Adi **YUSSUF**	(27) 20.02.92	Blackpool (Eng)
21	Yahya **ZAYD**	(21) 10.03.98	Ismaily (Egy)

COACH

Emmanuel **AMUNIKE** (Nga)	(48) 25.12.70	

TUNISIA

GOALKEEPERS

22	Moez **BEN CHERIFIA**	(27) 24.06.91	Esperance
1	Farouk **BEN MUSTAPHA**	(29) 01.07.89	Al Shabab (Sau)
16	Mouez **HASSEN**	(24) 05.03.95	Nice (Fra)

DEFENDERS

12	Karim **AOUADHI**	(31) 02.05.88	Etoile du Sahel
6	Rami **BEDOUI**	(29) 19.01.90	Etoile du Sahel
3	Dylan **BRONN**	(24) 19.06.95	Gent (Blg)
14	Mohamed **DRAGER**	(22) 25.06.96	Freiburg (Ger)
5	Oussama **HADDADI**	(27) 28.01.92	Dijon (Fra)
21	Nassim **HNID**	(22) 12.03.97	CS Sfaxien
4	Yassine **MERIAH**	(25) 02.07.93	Olympiakos (Gre)

MIDFIELDERS

9	Anice **BADRI**	(28) 18.09.90	Esperance
19	Ayman **BEN MOHAMED**	(24) 08.12.94	Esperance
20	Ghailene **CHAALALI**	(25) 28.02.94	Esperance
2	Wajdi **KECHRIDA**	(23) 05.11.95	Etoile du Sahel
15	Marc **LAMTI**	(18) 28.01.01	Bayer Leverkusen (Ger)
7	Youssef **MSAKNI**	(28) 28.10.90	Al Duhail (Qatar)
13	Ferjani **SASSI**	(27) 18.03.92	Zamalek (Egy)
17	Ellyes **SKHIRI**	(24) 10.05.95	Montpellier (Fra)
23	Naim **SLITI**	(26) 27.07.92	Dijon (Fra)
18	Bassem **SRARFI**	(21) 25.06.97	Nice (Fra)

FORWARDS

8	Firas **CHAOUAT**	(23) 08.05.96	CS Sfaxien
10	Wahbi **KHAZRI**	(28) 08.02.91	Saint-Etienne (Fra)
11	Taha **YASSINE KHENISSI**	(27) 06.01.92	Esperance

COACH

Alain **GIRESSE** (Fra)	(66) 02.08.52	

UGANDA

GOALKEEPERS

1	Robert **ODONGKARA**	(29) 02.09.89	Adama City (Eth)
18	Denis **ONYANGO**	(34) 15.05.85	Mamelodi Sundowns (SAf)
19	Jamal **SALIM**	(24) 27.05.95	Al Hilal (Sud)

DEFENDERS

3	Timothy **AWANY**	(22) 06.08.96	KCCA
4	Murushid **JUUKO**	(25) 14.04.94	Simba (Tan)
5	Bevis **MUGABI**	(24) 01.05.95	Yeovil Town (Eng)
12	Ronald **MUKIIBI**	(27) 16.09.91	Ostersund (Swe)
20	Isaac **MULEME**	(26) 10.10.92	Viktoria Zizkov (CzR)
2	Joseph **OCHAYA**	(25) 14.12.93	TP Mazembe (DRC)
14	Nicholas **WADADA**	(24) 27.07.94	Azam (Tan)
15	Godfrey **WALUSIMBI**	(29) 03.07.89	(unattached)

MIDFIELDERS

8	Khalid **AUCHO**	(25) 08.08.93	Churchill Brothers (Ind)
23	Micheal **AZIRA**	(31) 22.08.87	Montreal Impact (USA)
13	Allan **KATEREGGA**	(25) 03.06.94	Maritzburg United (SAf)
10	Luwagga **KIZITO**	(25) 20.12.93	Politehnica Iasi (Rom)
21	Allan **KYAMBADDE**	(23) 15.01.96	KCCA
6	Taddeo **LWANGA**	(25) 21.05.94	Vipers
17	Farouk **MIYA**	(21) 26.11.97	Gorica (Cro)
16	Hassan **WASSWA**	(31) 14.02.88	(unattached)

FORWARDS

22	Lumala **ABDU**	(21) 21.07.97	Kalmar (Swe)
9	Patrick **KADDU**	(23) 09.10.95	KCCA
11	Derrick **NSIBAMBI**	(25) 19.06.94	Smouha (Egy)
7	Emmanuel **OKWI**	(26) 25.12.92	Simba (Tan)

COACH

Sebastien **DESABRE** (Fra)	(42) 02.08.76	

ZIMBABWE

GOALKEEPERS

16	George **CHIGOVA**	(28) 04.03.91	Polokwane City (SAf)
13	Elvis **CHIPEZEZE**	(29) 11.03.90	Baroka (SAf)
1	Edmore **SIBANDA**	(32) 02.01.87	Witbank Spurs (SAf)

DEFENDERS

2	Tendayi **DARIKWA**	(27) 13.12.91	Nottingham Forest (Eng)
12	Jimmy **DZINGAI**	(28) 21.11.90	Power Dynamos
15	Teenage **HADEBE**	(23) 17.09.95	Kaizer Chiefs (SAf)
5	Divine **LUNGA**	(24) 28.05.95	Golden Arrows (SAf)
22	Lawrence **MHLANGA**	(25) 20.12.93	Platinum
4	Ronald **PFUMBIDZAI**	(24) 25.12.94	Bloemfontein Celtic (SAf)

MIDFIELDERS

11	Khama **BILLIAT**	(28) 19.08.90	Kaizer Chiefs (SAf)
21	Thabani **KAMUSOKO**	(31) 02.03.88	Young Africans (Tan)
10	Ovidy **KARURU**	(30) 23.01.89	AmaZulu (SAf)
20	Kudakwashe **MAHACHI**	(25) 29.09.93	Orlando Pirates (SAf)
6	Alec **MUDIMU**	(24) 08.04.95	Cefn Druids (Wal)
8	Marshall **MUNETSI**	(22) 22.06.96	Orlando Pirates (SAf)
18	Marvelous **NAKAMBA**	(25) 19.01.94	Club Brugge (Blg)
3	Danny **PHIRI**	(30) 22.04.89	Golden Arrows (SAf)

FORWARDS

7	Talent **CHAWAPIWA**	(27) 03.06.92	AmaZulu (SAf)
14	Tino **KADEWERE**	(23) 05.01.96	Le Havre (Fra)
23	Nyasha **MUSHEKWI**	(31) 21.08.87	Dalian Yifang (Chn)
17	Knowledge **MUSONA**	(29) 21.06.90	Anderlecht (Blg)
19	Knox **MUTIZWA**	(25) 12.10.93	Golden Arrows (SAf)
9	Evans **RUSIKE**	(28) 13.06.91	SuperSport United (SAf)

COACH

Sunday **CHIDZAMBWA**	(67) 04.05.52	

Battleground...Inter's Matteo Politano (left) and Giacomo Bonaventura of Milan clash last season

INTERNAZIONALE v MILAN

With the clubs sharing a home stadium, San Siro hosts all the city's derbies...for now

The Stadio Giuseppe Meazza, or San Siro as it is more commonly known, has been the home of both Milan and Internazionale since 1926 and 1947 respectively, and therefore hosts all of the city's big derby clashes.

However, the famous old ground in Milan now looks to be on borrowed time, with the two clubs submitting plans to demolish their current base and share a new 60,000-plus capacity arena, to be built on the same site by 2023.

For supporters of both teams it will be hoped that a change of venue may help to spark an upturn in their side's fortunes, with both Milan and Inter struggling of late to challenge for top honours as Juventus dominate domestically in Italy.

Neither have won Serie A since Milan triumphed in 2011, while it is 12 years since seven-times winners Milan reached the Final of Europe's biggest club competition.

Inter, who like Milan have won 18 league titles, have not been Italian champions since 2010 and the last of their three European triumphs was that same year.

In fact, the only tournament in which the pair have managed to better Juve is in the Club World Cup, which they have both won once.

This season, Juventus go in search of a ninth successive *Scudetto*.

Pulling out all the stops in trying to stop them – while also attempting to get the better of each other – the Milanese duo have both appointed new coaches this summer, with Antonio Conte taking over at Inter and Marco Giampaolo being put in charge at Milan. WS

Going...Milan's San Siro could be replaced

CLASSIC ENCOUNTERS

1908 Oct 18
The first meeting between the city rivals actually took place in Switzerland, with Milan winning 2-1 in the Final of the Chiasso Cup.

1977 Jul 3
Milan win 2-0 in the Italian Cup Final, which is played at San Siro.

2003 May 13
After a goalless draw in the first leg, Milan go through to the Final of the Champions League on "away" goals following a 1-1 draw in the return – even though both games were played in the same stadium.

2019 Mar 17
In their 223rd official meeting, Inter win 3-2 and now lead 80-76 in the head-to-head, with 67 draws.

ON BOTH SIDES

GIUSEPPE MEAZZA
● 1927-40, 1946-47; (coach) 1946-48, 1955-56, 1957
● 1940-42

GIOVANNI TRAPATTONI
● 1959-71; (coach) 1974, 1975-76
● (coach) 1986-91

ROBERTO BAGGIO
● 1995-97
● 1998-2000

RONALDO
● 1997-2002
● 2007-08

ZLATAN IBRAHIMOVIC
● 2006-09
● 2010-12

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Hitesh Ratna, Editor, FourFourTwo

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